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OUR PUBLIC RECORDS.





# OUR PUBLIC RECORDS

A BRIEF HANDBOOK TO THE

NATIONAL ARCHIVES

BY

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HISTORY," ETC.



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TO THE  
RIGHT HONOURABLE LORD ROMILLY,  
ETC. ETC. ETC.,  
WHO, AS MASTER OF THE ROLLS,  
HAS WON THE BEST THANKS OF MEN OF LITERATURE  
FOR REMOVING THOSE RESTRICTIONS WHICH FORMERLY  
ATTENDED THE INSPECTION OF OUR NATIONAL  
ARCHIVES, THIS BRIEF HANDBOOK IS BY  
SPECIAL PERMISSION GRATEFULLY  
AND RESPECTFULLY

**Dedicated.**







## PREFACE.



TWENTY years have now elapsed since Mr. Thomas, the late Secretary of the Public Record Office, published his "Hand-book to the Public Records"—a work the best of its class, and one which will always continue to be the chief basis for labours of a similar character. In presenting the following pages to the public, I am therefore not attempting to rival or to depose from its well-deserved position the valuable book of Mr. Thomas. But as the last twenty years have witnessed various important additions to our national archives, and no slight changes in the mode of their arrangement, it is hoped that the information now collected will not be without its value. My plan has been to draw up a list of the most important documents among the Public Records, arranged in such a manner as to be easy of reference, and to readily catch the eye. It is for the latter reason that the more laborious, but

perhaps more desirable, plan of a purely alphabetical arrangement has been adopted.

All the numerous additions which have from time to time been made to the collection of the Public Records have been carefully noted, and, in the case of accruing records, the last dates have been given.

For no little information on this subject I am much indebted to the generous assistance of my colleagues ; but I think it right to state that I have not undertaken this handbook officially, but am alone responsible for its production.

I have to express my thanks to the "Times" for permission to reprint and publish the two chapters on the "Custody of the Public Records" and "The Public Records," which appeared in the columns of that journal at the close of last year.

*London, 1873.*





## THE CUSTODY OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS.

**W**ITHIN the last few years, the study of our Public Records, thanks to the facilities afforded for their examination by the present Master of the Rolls, has become an object of general and increasing interest to many who until lately were ignorant that we possessed such magnificent memorials of the past. Formerly, an acquaintance with our collection of national archives was limited to a few historians who condescended to consult original documents instead of printed authorities, to a few antiquaries of the Dryasdust school, and to certain solicitors who combined the knowledge of the law with that of record agency. To the world at large our public records were a sealed book, and a book which, for aught it cared, might continue to remain sealed. This ignorance and indifference were undoubtedly due in a



great measure to the extreme difficulties of access which then surrounded the inspection of the national archives. The records were imperfectly arranged ; they possessed but the most meagre of indexes ; they were dispersed in various establishments ; and to discover the object of one's quest, ended more often than not in disappointment. Respect for the past and the new phase upon which modern history has entered, have now happily changed neglect into care, and dispersion into consolidation.

In former times the records of our courts were preserved in the palace of the king, but as soon as the law courts became stationary, and were held within the precincts of the royal palace, instead of following the king from place to place, their documents remained in the possession of their respective courts, and treasurers were appointed to receive them. The Treasurer of the Exchequer was anciently the ultimate repository for the records of the Courts of King's Bench and Common Pleas, but owing to the rapid increase of these records, and their bulk rendering them too inconvenient for one place of deposit, further accommodation had to be obtained. Accordingly, they were removed to the palace of Westminster, to the old Chapter-house, and to the cloister of the Abbey of Westminster, " vaulted with stone, and so out of danger of fire, but wanting reparation both in glass and lead."

Eventually these places of deposit merged into the Chapter-house, Poet's Corner, Westminster, and thus laid the foundation of the well-known Chapter-house repository. At the end of the reign of Richard I. the

Court of Chancery becoming separated from that of the Exchequer,<sup>1</sup> the Wardrobe in the Tower of London was used as the chief place of deposit for all chancery records, and thus was laid the foundation of the Record Office in the Tower. From the reign of Edward II. to Edward IV. it was the practice of the Masters of the Rolls to keep the chancery records in their dwelling-house, and to deposit in the Tower only the rolls and bundles that had accumulated. After the reign of Edward IV. however, the chancery records were lodged in what is now known as the chapel of the Rolls, but which was then the *Domus Converforum Judæorum*, or House for Converted Jews and Infidels, which had been annexed to the office of the Master of the Rolls in the reign of Edward III.<sup>2</sup> An office was subsequently attached to this chapel, and thus arose the Record-office, known as the Rolls' Chapel-office.

These three places of deposit—the Chapter-house, the Tower of London, and the Rolls—constituted for many years the chief, but not the only repositories for our public records; for, as in process of time the business of

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<sup>1</sup> "One would be apt to think the Chancery was separated from the Exchequer at the latter end of King Richard the First's reign, or at the beginning of King John's, because about that time they began, as it seems, to make distinct Rolls of the Chancery in a series of years; to wit, Charter Rolls, Patent Rolls, Fine Rolls, and Close Rolls; and to estreat or certify the same into the Exchequer. I cannot find that in the preceding times that method was used."—Madox, *Hist. of Exchequer*, p. 132.

<sup>2</sup> See Patent Rolls, 51 Edw. III. m. 20, and 6 Ric. II. part iii. m. 12.

the law courts increased, sittings after term were authorized, and offices for the preparation of the business were established in and about the Inns of Court, in which records were speedily accumulated; these, as they became burdensome, were removed and warehoused in other places, and soon fell into disorder. In fact, had it not been for the interest manifested by the early sovereigns of England, in the preservation of the records, our archives would have been in all probability entirely neglected. This interest was evinced by different royal orders, all of which had for their object the welfare of the public records, and their consolidation as much as possible into one complete collection.

It is asserted that Edward I. was the first who established a repository for our records, but this probably has reference to the Wardrobe at the Tower of London; for we find from the rolls that Adam de Osgodeby was appointed keeper of the Rolls of the King's Chancery at the Wardrobe in the Tower of London, October 1, 1295, in the same manner as other keepers had been appointed.<sup>1</sup> Again, in 1305, the Treasurer and Chamberlains of the Exchequer were commanded to deliver out of the Treasury, to the Controller of the Wardrobe, all the privileges granted to the king and his ancestors, that the same might be conveyed to the Tower, and be kept under Osgodeby's control. In the following reign the condition of the records appears to have been unsatisfactory, for we read of Edward II. in 1320 directing

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<sup>1</sup> Close Rolls, 33 Edw. I. m. 3.

a writ of privy seal to the Treasurer and Barons of the Exchequer, to employ proper persons to superintend, methodize, and digest all the rolls and other writings then remaining in the Treasuries of the Exchequer and in the Tower of London, declaring that they had not been disposed in such manner as they ought to have been for the public service.<sup>1</sup> And two years later, the same king commanded the above officials to make a calendar to the bulls, charters, and other writings preserved in the Treasury, Wardrobe, and elsewhere. During the reigns of Edward III. Richard II. and Henry VI. various commands were given at different times to bring certain muniments belonging to the Courts of Chancery and Common Pleas, and the office of the Privy Seal, then deposited in the houses of private persons, to be incorporated with the collection in the Tower. These removals, however, seem to have been very carelessly superintended, for in the reign of Edward VI. many records were discovered in an old house in the Tower, their existence being totally unknown until search was made for a convenient place to deposit gunpowder. So long had they remained against the walls, that many of them were eaten and destroyed by the lime.

In 1567, Queen Elizabeth being informed of the confused and perilous state of the records of parliament and chancery, gave orders for rooms to be prepared in the Tower to receive them, her majesty declaring

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<sup>1</sup> Record Report, 1732.



“that it was not meet that the records of her Chancery, which were accounted as a principal member of the treasure belonging to herself, and to her crown and realm, should remain in private houses and places for doubt of such danger or spoil as theretofore had happened to the like records in the time of Richard II. and Henry VI.”<sup>1</sup> This order was, however, never executed, and the records remained in the Rolls Chapel. On the defeat of the Scots in their own country by Oliver Cromwell, the records and rolls of Scotland were seized and sent to the Tower, where they remained till the Restoration, when they were sent back again to Scotland by sea, but the ship was unfortunately wrecked and the records lost.<sup>2</sup> In the reign of Charles II. William Prynne, converted by Cromwell’s *régime* into a good royalist, and made keeper of the records in the Tower, alludes to the interest manifested by the sovereigns for the care of the records, in his preface to the fourth volume of parliamentary writs, by presuming that it will be his majesty’s especial care, as it was his royal predecessors’, “to preserve these ancient records, not only from fire and sword, but water, moths, canker, dust, cobwebs, for your own and your kingdom’s honour and service, they being such sacred reliques, such peerless jewels, that your noble ancestors have estimated no places so fit to preserve them in as consecrated chapels or royal treasuries and wardrobes, where they

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<sup>1</sup> Thomas. Ayloffe’s Calendars, p. xxviii.

<sup>2</sup> Stow, vol. i. p. 116. Thomas.



lay up their sacred crowns, jewels, robes, and that upon very good grounds, they being the principal evidences by which they held, supported, defended their crowns, kingdoms, revenues, prerogatives, and their subjects their respective lands, lives, liberties, properties, franchises, rights, laws."

In 1689 an address of the House of Lords was presented to William III. for one William Petyt to be employed to methodize the records in the Tower, with proper assistance, "the records being in great disorder and confusion." In reply, his majesty said he would consider the matter; and in 1703 a committee of the House of Lords was appointed "to consider of the method of keeping records in offices, and how they were kept, and to consider of ways to remedy what should be found amiss; to send for such officers as they should think fit, and to report their opinion, with power to appoint a sub-committee to consider thereof, and to inspect such offices and records as they should think fit, and to report to the grand committee." This committee was revised at various times, and other committees continued occasionally to be appointed, but it was not till the year 1800 that a complete and satisfactory investigation of our public records was entered into. In the early part of that year the state of the national archives was brought under the consideration of the House of Commons, and resulted in the appointment of a select committee to inquire into the state of the public records of the kingdom, and of such other public instruments and papers as the committee should think proper, and

to report to the house their nature and condition, together with what plan they deemed most expedient for their better arrangement, preservation, and more convenient use.

The result of this inquiry was, that in the same session the committee presented to the house the fruit of their labours in England and Scotland, and submitted certain measures contained in a large volume commonly known as the Record Report of 1800.

It is impossible to speak in too high terms of this Report, which is the most important volume on the records of this country that has ever appeared, and the foundation-stone for all similar labours. It is divided into two reports, the first containing the returns from the different repositories relating to the nature and condition of the records, and the second an analysis of the returns divided into two tables, the first table being a systematic classification of the records according to some of the great subjects to which they relate, and the second table an alphabetical index of reference to the returns.

The House of Commons, after considering the observations in the Report, presented an address to His Majesty, George III. dated July 11, 1800, "to give directions for the better preservation, arrangement, and more convenient use of the Public Records of the kingdom, and that they, the Commons, would cheerfully provide whatever extraordinary expenses might be incurred." Accordingly, a Commission, composed of various distinguished privy councillors and officers of State, was issued under the royal sign manual, author-

izing the commissioners, or any three of them, "to make a diligent and particular inquiry into the several matters which our faithful commons have in the above-mentioned report of their proceedings represented as fitting to be provided for by our royal authority." Power was given to the commissioners to appoint a secretary and sub-commissioners "to methodize, regulate, and digest the records, rolls, instruments, books, and papers in any of our public offices and repositories, and to cause such of the said records, rolls, instruments, books, and papers as are decayed and in danger of being destroyed to be bound and secured." Another Commission was issued in 1806, when certain of the sub-commissioners extended their researches to Ireland, where they inspected most of the Record Offices there, and delivered a written report on their contents and condition to the Lord-Lieutenant. In 1810 a separate Commission was issued for Ireland, to report annually to the King in Council; and seven years later a third Commission, in continuation of the former one for Great Britain, was issued under the sign manual of the Prince Regent, by which the powers granted to certain of the public officers named in the former Commissions were extended to all such persons as filled the like offices in England and Scotland, and annual reports of their proceedings were presented by the commissioners to the Prince Regent in Council. In 1831 another Commission was issued by William IV. which expired six years later, and was not renewed by her present Majesty. The cause of the non-renewal of the Commission was

owing to the administration of its affairs having fallen into disorder, and its expenditure exceeding the parliamentary votes. The commissioners, during their thirty-seven years of management of the affairs of the records, appear to have directed their attention almost exclusively to the printing of the records, and very little was done for the care and future preservation of them. Accordingly, charges of mismanagement having been made, a select committee of the House of Commons was appointed in 1836, "to inquire into the management and affairs of the Record Commission, and the present state of the records of the United Kingdom." After a most careful and searching investigation, it was the opinion of the committee that record commissions were not the best means that could be devised for the supervision of the records. "Your committee, in remarking on the defective management of past commissions, has attributed their errors not to any peculiar incapacity or negligence of the individuals who composed those commissions, but to the defective principle which has pervaded the constitution of all those different bodies. Our experience of them furnished but one additional and almost superfluous proof of the folly of expecting efficient labour and systematic care at the hands of a numerous body unpaid for the discharge of its duties, and occupied by other avocations of a more important, more imperative, and a wholly foreign nature. The defect being in the system, it is the system which must be altered; and your committee can expect no substantial or permanent improvement of the present state of things



until it sees the present Commission replaced by one constituted on an entirely new principle." The government, acting upon the recommendation of this committee, allowed the Commission to expire in 1837, and intimated to Lord Langdale, the Master of the Rolls, who was also one of the Record Commissioners, that it was their wish to place the direction of the record affairs in his hands. Accordingly, after some correspondence, the Public Records Act, 1 and 2 Vict. c. 94, was passed, which placed the records therein named (with power to add other documents thereto, if necessary) in the custody and under the superintendence of the Master of the Rolls for the time being, and directed the Treasury forthwith to provide a suitable building. The result of this act was the appointment of a Deputy Keeper of the Public Records under a royal sign manual, and eventually the establishment of the present Public Record Office.

It can easily be imagined that the insufficient accommodation allotted in former times to our national archives, and the careless and ignominious manner in which they were preserved, have made considerable havoc among their contents. Indeed, when we consider that for centuries, notwithstanding the solicitude of sovereigns and of parliament, no well-considered plan was formed for the proper care of the records, it is a marvel that their condition is so perfect and complete as it now is.

It was not till our ancient muniments were consolidated in one common repository, and their contents indexed and catalogued, that the public became aware



that we possessed a collection of records which, from their historical importance and extreme antiquity, stands unrivalled at the present day by the stores of either Rome, Paris, or Madrid. Of late years, a great deal has been done by the record officials to turn this collection to good practical account. The several series of state papers are being rapidly calendared, and from time to time a *précis* of their various contents is published under the direction of the Master of the Rolls. Different ancient chronicles, illustrative of matters of ecclesiastical and archæological interest, have also appeared, edited by able palæographers and antiquarian scholars. All the documents are now most carefully preserved and systematically arranged, so that the difficulties which before existed with regard to their inspection are now entirely removed. In short, our public records, after centuries of neglect, are now receiving the attention they richly deserve. In bygone times, self-interest predominated over antiquarian lore. The one great object of ancient keepers of the records was to collect the fees then demanded for inspection. If the documents under their charge fell into confusion, or became mutilated, no steps were taken to arrange or repair them. When one repository became overcharged, portions of the records were at once got rid of, and sent to another repository, the keeper of which, considering that they were merely warehoused with him, took little or no interest in them. Hence our archives gradually became inaccessible to the public, and finally almost useless, from their want of arrangement and their miscellaneous character. Prynne

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thus forcibly describes their condition in the Tower in the reign of Charles II.<sup>1</sup>

“ No sooner received I your Royal patent for the custody of your antient records in your Tower of London, even in the midst of my Parliamentary and disbanding services then monopolizing all my time, but I designed, endeavoured the rescue of the greatest part of them from that desolation, corruption, confusion in which (through the negligence, nescience, or slothfulness of their former keepers) they had for many years by past layen buried together in one confused chaos under corroding, putrifying cobwebs, dust, filth, in the dark corner of Cæsar’s Chapel in the White Tower as mere useless reliques not worthy to be calendared or brought down thence into the office among other records of use. In order thereunto I employed some souldiers and women to remove and cleanse them from their filthynesse, who, soon growing weary of this noysome work, left them almost as foul, dusty, and nasty as they found them. Whereupon immediately after the Parliament’s adjournment, I and my clerk (in August and September last) spent many whole dayes in cleansing and sorting them into distinct confused heaps in order to their future reducement into method, the old clerks of the office being unwilling to touch them for fear of fouling their fingers, spoiling their cloathes, endangering their eyesight and healths by their cankerous dust and evil scent. In raking up this dunghheap (according to my

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<sup>1</sup> Parliamentary Writs, edited by Sir F. Palgrave. Preface.

expectation) I found many rare antient precious pearls and golden records. . . . All which will require Briareus his hundred hands, Argus his hundred eyes, and Nestor's centuries of years to marshal them into distinct files, and make exact alphabetical tables of the several things, names, places comprised in them, wherein most treasuries of records are very defective."

The eccentricities of management and instances of feebleness which were connected with the administration of the national archives for years past appear now almost incredible. Before the records were placed in their now splendid and admirably arranged repository nearly a million<sup>1</sup> sterling had been expended in the custody, printing, and administration of the public records and state papers, and yet the great bulk of them were exposed to imminent perils of fire. In fact the late Mr. Braidwood, then Superintendent of the London Fire Brigade, stated that they were under risks to which "no merchant of ordinary prudence would subject his books of account."<sup>2</sup> Reports without end of the danger with which the records were threatened were made to parliament year after year. Periodically the Treasury instituted an inquiry, and its example was followed by the Office of Woods; the Home Secretary was catechized, and promised to learn something, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer hoped to find funds, and yet nothing was done. Thirteen years had passed since

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<sup>1</sup> £878,100 was the actual sum spent.

<sup>2</sup> A Pamphlet On the Perilous State and Neglect of the Public Records.

the act for erecting a Public Record Office had become law, the theory of which was to put under the superintendence of the Master of the Rolls all legal records, and those records which exceeded twenty years in age in a suitable building, and still the national documents in actual charge of the Public Record Office continued to remain in their insecure depositories. But to the public at large the insecure condition of their country's archives was a matter of little or no importance. It was only one man in five hundred who knew the extent and value, and comprehended the singular continuity of our historical documents. But to him who knew that we possessed records of the Court of Chancery from the time of King John without intermission to the last decree made by the Lord Chancellor, that we possessed ledger books of the national expenditure which Chancellors of the Exchequer had regulated, unrivalled even for their very physical magnificence and complete as a series since the days of Henry II.; that, among our treaties were the very chirograph between Henry I. and Robert Earl of Flanders—the most ancient of our diplomatic documents; the privilege of Pope Adrian to Henry II. to conquer Ireland; the treaties with Robert Bruce and the veritable treaty of the Cloth of Gold, illuminated with the portrait of Francis I. and adorned by the gold seal chased by Benvenuto Cellini himself; that we possessed that most perfect survey in its way, though made eight centuries ago, called the *Domesday Book*; and records like the Pipe, Close, and Patent Rolls and the splendid series of Fines; in short, the man who



knew that his country possessed stores of public records, "justly reckoned to excel in age, beauty, correctness, and authority, whatever the choicest archives abroad can boast of the like sort,"—to such a man it was, indeed, a national disgrace that muniments so important, and so priceless, should be housed in a manner in which "no merchant of ordinary prudence" would keep his vulgar books of account.

And how were they housed? In the Tower of London were the early Chancery records from the time of John, and the Admiralty records. One portion was placed in the Wakefield Tower, "contiguous to a steam-engine in daily operation;"<sup>1</sup> another portion was piled and packed up in a very cramped space in the large, square, four-turreted keep of the old fortrefs, called the White Tower; while the Admiralty records choked up and completely hid the chapel of old Bishop Gundulph in this keep, called Cæsar's Chapel. In the basement of the White Tower were stored tons of gunpowder sufficient to destroy all Tower Hill, and change even the course of the Thames, if an explosion had happened; while many of the rooms of the Tower were filled with ordnance stores of the most inflammable kind. No wonder, then, that Mr. Braidwood reported that the insurance of such a building with such stores would not be taken by any insurance office for less than 5s. per cent., the ordinary risk being only 1s. 6d. per cent.<sup>2</sup> In 1842 a fire did

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<sup>1</sup> Report of the Select Committee of the House of Commons, 1836.

<sup>2</sup> Perilous State and Neglect of the Public Records.



happen within forty feet of this very keep, and burnt down the small armoury, and the fire-engines for an entire night were hard at work deluging this very White Tower for its protection. This was one of the repositories of our public records.

In 1822, on the erection of the new Law Courts at Westminster, the records of the Queen's Remembrancer were placed in a temporary shed at the end of Westminster Hall. Previous to the coronation of William IV. this shed was removed and the records were transferred in 1830 to the sheds in the King's Mews, Charing Cross. The results of such accommodation were brought to light in 1836 by the Report of the Select Committee of the House of Commons, which states :—

“ In these sheds 4,136 cubic feet of national records were deposited in the most neglected condition. Besides the accumulated dust of centuries, all, when these operations commenced (the investigation into the state of the Records), were found to be very damp. Some were in a state of inseparable adhesion to the stone walls. There were numerous fragments which had only just escaped entire consumption by vermin, and many were in the last stage of putrefaction. Decay and damp had rendered a large quantity so fragile as hardly to admit of being touched ; others, particularly those in the form of rolls, were so coagulated together that they could not be uncoiled. Six or seven perfect skeletons of rats were found embedded, and bones of these vermin were generally distributed throughout the mass ; and besides furnishing a charnel house for the dead, during the first

removal of these national records a dog was employed in hunting the live rats, which were thus disturbed from their nests."

But the advice of commissions, the recommendations of committees, the decrees of acts of parliament and the urgent entreaties of public functionaries appear to have been treated with utter contempt, for when it became necessary to take down the mews to erect the National Gallery, the greater part of the records were removed—to a safe and honourable place of deposit? No—to the stables of Carlton House. These stables were a sort of huge barn situated at the east end of Carlton Terrace, in which the Princess Charlotte used to take horse exercise. The interior of this "suitable building" presented a series of dark alleys, the sides of which were faced with records reaching up some thirty feet high. In this flimsy shed, which, according to Mr. Braidwood's estimate, could be burnt down in twenty minutes if it caught fire, were placed, no mere rotten antiquarian lumber, but the magnificent collection of "Fines," the great Rolls of the Pipe, the ledger book of national receipts and expenditure from the days of Henry II. and other invaluable documents. The fire risk here, as at the Tower, was estimated also at 5s. per cent. These two repositories—the Tower and the Carlton shed—contained in those days by far the greatest bulk of our records. The accommodation they afforded was, indeed, a remarkable proof of England's love for her "choicest archives."

But the condition of the records deposited elsewhere

was not a whit safer. The venerable *Domesday Book*, the most priceless record in Europe, and various other records of the Exchequer, &c., were preserved in the Chapter House of Westminster Abbey, behind which were a brewhouse and washhouse, "reported as dangerous, and endangering the safety of the Chapter House by fire."<sup>1</sup> Other records were in Chancery Lane—some in the Rolls House, some in a temporary shed erected in the Rolls Garden for the Treasury papers, and some in the pews and behind the Communion Table in the Rolls Chapel, a place heated by hot-air flues. Many documents were lodged in private houses and chambers. The

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<sup>1</sup> In 1835 Mr. Buller moved for an Inquiry into the Old Record Commission. On that occasion he said :—" Ever since 1732, it had been reported to the House of Commons, that there were a brewhouse and washhouse at the back of the Chapter House, where the Records were kept, and by which the safety of the Chapter House was endangered by fire. In 1800 this brewhouse and this washhouse were again reported as dangerous. In 1819 this brewhouse and washhouse again attracted the serious notice of the Commissioners. In 1831 it was thought expedient to send a deputation to the Dean and Chapter of Westminster, and to request his Majesty's Surveyor-General to report upon the perils of this brewhouse and washhouse (a laugh), and endeavour to get the Dean and Chapter to pull them down. (Laughter.) But the Dean and Chapter asserted the vested rights of the Church, and no redress was obtained against the brewhouse and washhouse. (A laugh.) In 1833, another expedition, headed by the right honourable baronet (Sir R. Inglis) opposite, was made to the Chapter House; but the right honourable baronet, desiring not to come into collision with the Church, omitted all mention of the brewhouse and washhouse. (Loud laughter.) And thus the attention of the Commissioners had been constantly directed to this eternal brewhouse and eternal washhouse without any avail. There they still remain as a monument of the inefficiency of the Commissioners, and of the great power and pertinacity of the Church of this country." (Loud laughter.)

records known as the King's Silver Books, containing entries of the amount of the *præ* and *post* fines taken on each fine levied, were preserved in the Temple, and were greatly damaged by fire in 1838. Various court rolls of manors were kept in New Square, Lincoln's Inn, and many perished in the fire which broke out there in 1849. In 1848, thirty-five sacks of records of the Court of Queen's Bench were removed to the custody of the Master of the Rolls from a cellar in which they had lain hid for years. Various other unexpected documents, also, from time to time saw the light. In 1848, the fusion of the state papers with the public records was recommended, and now both those classes of national archives are preserved under one roof, instead of in two distinct establishments.

On the passing of the Record Act, Lord Langdale, who was now invested with the custody of the public records, resolved that the scandalous manner in which they were preserved should cease. Accordingly, he lost no time in submitting to the Secretary of State for the Home Department, then Lord John Russell, the necessity of providing a public Record Office at once. In 1836 a Committee of the House of Commons, in discussing the question of the erection of a general repository for the records, had come to the conclusion that one of the chief defects in the system then adopted arose from the records being deposited in different and widely-scattered buildings and entrusted to a multitude of imperfectly responsible keepers. The excellent state of the Scotch records was urged as an instance of the advan-



tage of having all the records of a country placed under one custody and in one central building. The committee cordially approved the erection of such an edifice, and recommended the spot known as the Rolls Estate as being the most eligible site for such a building. In his letter to Lord John Russell, Lord Langdale accordingly reiterated the suggestion of the Commons' Committee that the Rolls Estate was a proper site. The Lords of the Treasury, however, though they entirely concurred that one general Record Office was essential to the introduction of a perfect system, signified that they would not commence building one until it was seen whether the Victoria Tower of the New Houses of Parliament would do for the purpose. Lord Langdale, however, adhered to his original view that the Rolls Estate was the proper place, and added, "that it would be convenient, and ultimately a great saving of expense, to establish the Record Office in connection with, or in the close vicinity of, the law offices of the courts." The Treasury, however, objected to the expense.

Soon after this correspondence had been entered into Lord Langdale was repeatedly alarmed by the danger of fire in the Record Offices, and in 1843 his lordship was unexpectedly informed upon an examination of the Record Office at the Carlton shed, by Mr. Braidwood, that the records there were exposed "to very great and extraordinary risk from fire." The Record Act had placed the public records in the custody of the Master of the Rolls, and at the same time had directed the Treasury to provide a suitable building. If the Treasury,



therefore, chose to ignore its duty it was no reason why Lord Langdale should follow in its steps, and accordingly, his lordship earnestly requested to know when he might reasonably hope that a general record repository would be provided, and expressed himself to the effect that he would prefer having the records safely packed up and difficult of access rather than run the risk of having them destroyed by fire. The Treasury, in reply, again brought forward the New Houses of Parliament as a fitting receptacle for our national muniments; but, as the Victoria Tower would not be "satisfactorily completed" for another five years, "permanent and fire-proof accommodation" for the Public Records should be provided in other portions of the Houses of Parliament during the current year—the "other portions" being the roofs of the Houses of Parliament. The roofs were accordingly inspected by Lord Langdale and the chief record officers. The result of this inspection was a report describing the roofs as about six feet high, fitted up like hen-coops, with 140 cells, each lighted by a little window, surrounded on all sides by chambers or ducts for the foul air of the rooms below—admirable conductors, by the way, for flames and hot air in case of fire—and difficult of access. The roofs having been pronounced not suitable for the purpose, the Treasury still clung to the Victoria Tower, till it was proved that the space that tower provided would not accommodate a third part of the records, so that notable scheme was finally abandoned.

It would be endless to enter into details respecting the

correspondence which passed between Lord Langdale and the Government with regard to the erection of the long-promised "suitable building." Suffice it to say that in 1850 the late Mr. Pennethorne, the Government architect, stated that the Rolls Estate was sufficiently large for the erection of a general record repository, and by January, 1851, the excavations for the foundations of the present Record Office were completed. In the years 1858 and 1859 the public records were removed from their ignominious repositories, and placed in their new quarters, where they are now most carefully preserved and systematically arranged. The most sensitive antiquary would find it difficult to suggest any improvement in the accommodation now afforded to our national archives, or to proffer a complaint that they are not easy of access. Thanks to the consideration of Lord Romilly, literary searchers can now investigate to their heart's content all records without payment of fees, and every facility is afforded them by the officials of the Department.



## THE PUBLIC RECORDS.



UPON the area once known as the Rolls Estate there rises a magnificent building, whose massive walls, iron-bound windows, statued tower, and architectural blendings of Gothic, Tudor, and Italian, create as much astonishment as they do admiration in the minds of seven out of every ten pedestrians who wend their way along the Strand and Fleet Street. Various are the opinions that stately pile gives rise to. By some, hastily anticipating the future, it has been called the New Law Courts; by others a new gaol; by many, a church; by a few, a lunatic asylum; and by some, who consider themselves more intelligent than the rest, the lumber-room of the nation—the waste-paper basket of the country—called the Public Record Office. Comparatively few are accurately acquainted with the use that vast building is put to, with the nature of its contents, or with the importance it possesses when knotty points of law have to be solved or disputed claims investigated. To the statesman and the judge, the lawyer and the claimant to property, the genealogist and the original historian, the antiquary and archæologist, the repository in Fetter Lane is well-known ground; but to the ordinary Englishman the character and extent of our national archives are equally unknown and uninteresting.

In the first place, what are the Public Records? According to the definition of the late Record Commissioners, our national muniments constitute four great classes. The first class are independent documents relating to various subjects, persons, and places, but making altogether one whole, such as, for instance, the *Domesday Book* or the *Valor Ecclesiasticus* of Henry VIII. The second are the series of enrolments, including within one roll great varieties of distinct and separate entries, classed according to their formal character—as, for instance, the Close Rolls, the Patent Rolls, and the Charter Rolls—or classed according to their subject-matter, as are the Liberate, the Norman, and the Gascon Rolls. The third class are those records which contain entries of judicial proceedings, and where each subject has a distinct roll and the several rolls of a particular period bound together at the top, the ends hanging loose; and the last class are all separate documents, such as letters, inquisitions, commissions, and privy seals, and the other various descriptions of formal instruments. It would be impossible to improve upon this definition, comprising, as it does, the two chief advantages wherever public muniments are concerned—accuracy and comprehensiveness of description. Both Lambard and Sir Edward Coke have given in their signification of the term *record* a briefer and less involved definition; but, according to their rendering, many of the most important classes of documents would have to be excluded from the list. Hence it was wisely decreed, on the passing of the Public Records Act, 1st and 2nd Vict. c. 94, which



made the Master of the Rolls the *custos* of the archives, that the word "records" should be taken to mean "all rolls, records, writs, books, proceedings, decrees, bills, warrants, accounts, papers, and documents whatsoever of a public nature belonging to Her Majesty."

As a natural consequence of such a trust as the care and supervision of an immense mass of public documents—many of the most heterogeneous nature, many very imperfectly preserved, and the greater portion unindexed and uncatalogued—one of the first measures that had to be adopted was the classification and arrangement of the Records in their proper chronological order and their proper courts. This great work, which, according to Prynne, required "Briareus his hundred hands, Argus his hundred eyes, and Nestor's centuries of years," has now been most effectually accomplished by the officials of the Record Department. Nothing could be more desirable for purposes of reference than the plan now in vogue—the classification of the different records under their respective Courts, and the framing of calendars and indexes to render research an easy task. Of the documents of these Courts, it will now be necessary to make some mention. The records of the Courts of Chancery, Queen's Bench, Exchequer, and Common Pleas contain the very essence of our antiquarian wealth. They constitute most of its bulk, much of its legal importance, and nearly all its historical interest.

First, as to our Chancery records. The office of Chancellor dates back from the days of the Roman Emperors, and was preserved in the various kingdoms



established after the ruin of the Empire. In the time of Edward the Elder, we read of the Chancery existing for the making out the royal charters and precepts, and that, as its duties expanded, it became the office of the prothonotary to write, enroll, and pass under the great seal almost every instrument which related to transactions between the king and foreign powers. The officers of the Chancery, in the early days of our history, lived together in an inn or *hospitium*, and, as part of the royal household, received their robes and fees from the king. Whenever the sovereign travelled from place to place, he was followed by the chancellor and his officers, with the rolls of the court strapped on the back of a strong horse. At every town where the king rested an *hospitium* was assigned to the Chancery, and it was the duty of the religious houses to furnish the pack-horse for the carriage of the rolls. As the chancellor had the custody of all public instruments that were required to be authenticated in the most solemn manner, it became his lot to take charge of the great seal when seals came into use. It is said that Edward the Confessor first introduced among us the use of a seal to authenticate his acts. In ancient times, the Chancery was kept in the *Curia Regis*, or King's Court; but part of the duties of the chancellor seem to have been carried on also at the Exchequer till the end of the reign of John, when the two courts, according to Madox, became separated. On the removal of the king's chancellor from the Exchequer, a Chancellor of the Exchequer was appointed, and the

Exchequer seal superseded the great seal at the Exchequer for certain purposes, while the duplicate pipe roll, formerly made up for the chancellor, became then the roll of the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Gradually, the separate and independent jurisdiction of the chancellor developed itself. In the reign of Edward I. he was, for the first time, styled Chancellor of England; in the following reign, the Court of Chancery was in full operation; and in the reign of Edward III. as a court of ordinary jurisdiction, it became of considerable importance. From that date the power of the Great Council began to wane, and the authority and jurisdiction of the Chancery took its place, till, growing with the growth of the country, it has become what it now is—the highest court of judicature in the kingdom, next to parliament.

As the Court of Chancery excels all other courts, so its records excel all other records. Merely to enumerate the documents of this court, without touching in the slightest upon the nature of their contents, would fill a volume. We can but attempt to sketch the salient points of their two or three more important series of rolls. “The custom of recording documents on rolls of parchment,” writes Sir Thomas Hardy, the present Deputy-Keeper of the Public Records,<sup>1</sup> “though of very ancient date, commenced nevertheless at a period subsequent to the Conquest; for no vestige can be traced of such a system during the Anglo-Saxon dynasty.

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<sup>1</sup> Introduction to the Close Rolls, by Sir Thomas Hardy, p. vi.

‘Apud Anglo-Saxones,’ says Hickes, ‘etiam mos erat leges Regum latas in codicibus monasteriorum, tanquam in tabulas publicas referendi.’ It may be assumed that, had such a plan been then in operation, the same would have been adopted by the Conqueror to perpetuate the survey of the kingdom which he caused to be made, and for the preservation of which he evinced so much zeal and anxiety. As to the precise time when the use of rolls for the entry of matters of business first began, there is still considerable doubt; antiquaries are much divided in opinion on the subject, and, indeed, it is difficult, if not impossible, to ascertain with any degree of certainty the exact period of its commencement. . . . That no rolls of a date antecedent to that of the 18th Henry I. are now in existence, is certain. It may, therefore, be presumed that the practice of enrolling prevailed shortly after the Conquest.” Among the chief enrolments belonging to the Court of Chancery, it would be difficult to find a collection more interesting to the historian and antiquary, or more important for all purposes of legal reference, than the extensive series of documents known as the Close Rolls. There is little that relates to the past which cannot be ascertained by a careful investigation of the *Rotuli Litterarum Clausarum*. Upon their well-preserved parchment membranes the historian sees entries relating to the privileges of peers and commoners in times gone by; of measures employed for the raising of armies and the equipment of fleets; of orders for the observance of treaties and for the fortification of castles; and endless laws touching the power of the Bench,

the authority of the Church, the extent of the civil jurisdiction and the prerogatives of the Crown. By the aid of these records the lawyer and antiquary can learn how the coinage of the realm was regulated; how aids and imposts, tollages and subsidies were raised; how riots and tumults were suppressed; how state prisoners were pardoned; how the affairs of the royal household were controlled; how the writs ran for the summoning of parliaments; what deeds were enrolled between party and party; what facts were deemed worthy of record upon the birth, marriage, and death of royal and noble families.<sup>1</sup> In short, little that concerns the naval and military, the civil and ecclesiastical, the legal and diplomatic affairs of the kingdom, is not to be found upon the miles of parchment which constitute the collection of the Close Rolls. The origin of the name Close Rolls is due to the fact that the documents entered upon them, being of a private nature, were despatched closed or sealed up, and were addressed to one or two persons only. The Close Rolls commence with the reign of John, and continue without interruption to the present time. Since the days of Henry VIII. their entries are mostly confined to the enrolments of deeds of bargain and sale, wills of Roman Catholics, recognizances, specifications of new inventions, and other instruments enrolled for safe custody by warrant from the Lord Chancellor or Master of the Rolls. Indexes to the Close Rolls, from the

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<sup>1</sup> See Introduction to the Close Rolls, by Sir Thomas Hardy, pp. xxxi-xlviii.



reign of Elizabeth to the present time, formerly deposited in the Enrolment Office, are now placed in the Record Office, and form an invaluable series of books of reference.

Next in importance to the above, and scarcely second in historical interest, is the splendid series of public muniments, dating from King John to the present time, called the Patent Rolls. Here, again, we have the same difficulty, owing to the heterogeneous nature of the materials, in describing the precise character of their contents as we have when dealing with the Close Rolls. Indeed, so varied and comprehensive are the entries in the Letters Patent, that it becomes almost impossible to draw the line of demarkation between what is enrolled and what is not. Hardly a single subject connected with the history and government of our country but receives illustration from this magnificent collection. Is a castle besieged by the king, a papal interdict removed by royal supplication, a safe conduct granted to an unpopular prelate, credence allowed to some court witness, grace shown to a rebellious subject, church lands bestowed on begging clergy, negotiations entered into with foreign princes, powers of ambassadors regulated, lands, offices, and wardships granted to public bodies or private persons, titles of nobility created, charters confirmed, proclamations drawn up, licenses to hold, sell, and marry, commands to do fealty and homage; all—whether relating to political, social, ecclesiastical, or commercial life—are to be found recorded on the membranes of the “*Litteræ Patentēs*.” Nor are



multitudinous and diverse entries the chief features of these records. Few collections among our public documents can boast a more unbroken succession. With the exception of the rolls of the 10th, 11th, and 12th years of King John's reign, and those of the 23rd and 24th year of King Henry III. (long known to have been missing), the Letters Patent extend without break or flaw from the year 1200 to our own day. Unlike their great antiquarian rivals, the Close Rolls, the Letters Patent are unsealed and exposed to view—hence their name. Their entries are written upon sheets of parchment with the seal of the sovereign, or party by whom they were issued, pendent at the bottom. For this reason, charters having the seal pendent at the bottom are a species of Letters Patent. The Letters Patent form one of the classes into which royal diplomas are divided, and thus resolve themselves into three divisions—the Letters Patent, the Letters Close, and Charters. From the commencement of the reign of Henry VIII. all grants, which had before passed in the form of Charters, were made by Letters Patent. Throughout this magnificent series considerable difference, both in the formula and in the effect of the various entries, is observable as our history advances in culture and civilization.<sup>1</sup>

The third great series belonging to this court consists of the well-known Parliamentary records. These are, however, far from being a perfect collection, many of

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<sup>1</sup> See Introduction to the Patent Rolls, by Sir Thomas Hardy.

the documents containing the proceedings of various parliaments being hopelessly lost. These rolls begin with the 6th Edward I. and extend to Henry VIII. As the journals of the House of Lords do not commence till the reign of Henry VIII. it is only from the Rolls of Parliament that proof can be obtained of a peer having sat in parliament previous to that period ; such proof is always requisite in all claims to an ancient barony by writ. Hence, to the genealogist this series of records is invaluable. It is much to be regretted that the collection is so imperfect. Anterior to the reign of Edward I. no roll purporting to be a Roll of Parliament can be found. Of the councils or parliaments of Edward I. only the rolls of the 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 26, 28, 29, 30, 33 and 35 are preserved. Of Edward II. only the 8, 9 and 14. Of Edward III. only the 1, 4, 5, 6, 13, 14, 15, 18, 21, 22, 25, 29, 36, 37, 38, 40, 42, 43, 45, 46, 47, 50 and 51. And in the subsequent reigns the gaps are so frequent as to give rise to the suspicion that they were not occasioned by mere accident. We know that Richard II. was accused of defacing those archives which related to the state and government of the kingdom ; and it is supposed that the parliamentary records touching the deposition of Edward II. were among those thus destroyed. The Parliament Rolls, when complete, contain entries of the various transactions which took place from the opening to the close of each parliament. Unfortunately, many of the lost rolls belong to those parliaments which are of the greatest importance to the history of the constitution.

No record of parliament is now known to be extant prior to the statute of Gloucester, 6 Edward I. The enrolments of acts of parliaments are, however, of considerable help in the investigation of our parliamentary history, and constitute a most important supplement to the Parliament Rolls. They began with Richard III. and continue to the present time. Down to the reign of Charles I. they contain much matter of historical interest over and above the mere enrolment of parliamentary acts. From Richard III. to Henry VIII. they set forth all acts, public and private: from Henry VIII. to Elizabeth, several only of the private acts; and from Elizabeth to George II. the private acts are omitted, the titles only being given. In 1849 the enrolments ceased, and acts printed on vellum were substituted. To the lawyer and genealogist the private statutes, with their settlements of estates and recitals of family pedigrees, are precious mines of reference. The Parliament Pawns are abstracts of all writs of summons and writs of election issued on calling a new parliament. They run from 21 Henry VIII. to the present time.

We have no time to give details respecting the other important collections of archives belonging to our Chancery Records. There are the Charter Rolls, which consist of grants of privileges to religious houses and bodies corporate, &c., and which run from John to Henry VIII. at which later date grants from the crown were entered on the Patent Rolls; the Coronation Rolls, which contain the commissions and the proceedings of the commissioners appointed to hear and determine

claims of service to be performed at coronations, as well as the oaths taken by the king or queen when crowned—this collection, with the exception of the Coronation Rolls of Charles I. and George III., which are wanting, is perfect from James I. to Victoria; the Escheat Rolls, which run from Henry III. to Charles II. and which contain the escheators' accounts of lands and property escheated to the crown, with the profit of the same; the Fine Rolls,<sup>1</sup> containing accounts of fines paid to the king for licences to alienate lands, for freedom from knight service, for pardons, wardships, and the like, and which begin with John and end with Charles I.; the interesting Gascon, French, and Norman Rolls,<sup>2</sup> which relate to transactions in France while the English held part of that country; the Cartæ Antiquæ, which consist of foundation charters of abbeys, endowments of religious houses, &c. and whose name of Cartæ Antiquæ is usually applied to all ancient deeds from the Saxon period down to Henry VIII.; the Oblata Rolls, beloved by the antiquary and genealogist, as their entries contain nothing but accounts of the offerings and free gifts to the sovereign from every great man who wished for the royal protection or toadied for the royal favour; the Inquisitions Post-mortem, taken on the death of every tenant of the crown; the Hundred Rolls, the Almain Rolls, the Decree Rolls, the Royal Letters, the

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<sup>1</sup> See "Fine Rolls," edited by C. Roberts.

<sup>2</sup> See "Rotuli Normanniæ," edited by Sir Thomas Hardy; also, "Carte's Catalogue," 2 vols.



Privy Seals and Signet Bills, the Subsidy Rolls, the Irish, Scotch, and Welsh Rolls—and the thousand other documents which it would be impossible to allude to within the brief limits of a general review of our archives. We can only say that every class of the above records is carefully arranged for public inspection, and that full and able indices render research a matter of little difficulty. Excepting for the House of Lords, copies made by the officials of the Record Office are regarded as evidence by a court of law.

Turning from the Court of Chancery to that of the Queen's Bench, we meet with a series of documents of less extensive range and of less historical interest than those just enumerated, but still not unworthy of study. The Court of Queen's Bench, like the other courts, had its origin in the Curia Regis. We are unable to ascertain the exact time when the Curia Regis lost its title and merged into that of the King's Bench. It is, however, clear from the statutes that in the 52nd year of Henry III. it was called the King's Court, and that in the 3rd year of Edward I. it was called the Court of King's Bench. In the old calendars we find that the records are called Curia Regis Rolls to the death of Henry III. and then from that time are styled King's Bench Rolls. As the Queen's Bench takes cognizance of both civil and criminal causes, the former on the crown side and the latter on the plea side of the court, the records of the court are arranged in the two sections, crown side and plea side. Of these records the most important are the Judgment or Plea Rolls. From the time of Richard I.



to the year 1702 they were united with the Crown Rolls, but at that date were separated. The Plea Rolls contain the general proceedings in causes, but are very defective, owing to the neglect of attorneys to bring the records in. The Crown Rolls are composed of indictments, informations, and other similar proceedings to which parties have pleaded. Another division of the Judgment Rolls contains the Controlment Rolls, which comprise minutes of all the principal proceedings in crown causes, with numerical references to the Judgment Rolls where the proceedings are entered at length. Apart from the Plea Rolls, the remaining records of this court are of less general interest. Among their number we may notice the Attorneys' Oath Roll, containing the oaths required to be subscribed by attorneys on their admission, the *Baga de Secretis*, containing proceedings on attainders, the enrolment of bails, the writs of certiorari, convicts, returns, outlawry, proceedings, the Doggett Rolls and Doggett Books of Judgment, the Gaol Delivery Rolls, and the large mass of indictments, recognizances, *posseas*, *præcipes*, and other similar documents. Among the records of the Queen's Bench is the prayer book, known as the sealed copy of the "Book of Common Prayer," pursuant to statute 14 Charles II.

The Court of Common Pleas contains a far richer collection of records than those belonging to the Queen's Bench, but, owing to the nature of its jurisdiction, the documents are more or less of an essentially legal nature, and possess, with one or two important exceptions, little

interest for the antiquary or historical student. The Common Pleas, like the King's Bench, was once an integral portion of the Curia Regis, but by the 14th clause of Magna Charta, which enacted that the "Common Pleas shall not follow our court," but shall "be holden in some place certain," it was detached from the Aula Regis and established in Westminster. Foremost among its records are the valuable collection of Fines. These date from Henry II. to the year 1834, when fines and recoveries were abolished, and "more simple modes of assurance substituted." Their importance in a genealogical point of view cannot be doubted. "The utility of these records," says the Report of the House of Commons' Committee on Public Records, "to all persons desirous of tracing property and pedigree is unquestionable." Fines contain the proceedings which have been adopted to convey estates, and to free them from their entail to issue and from the dower of wives. Thus from the Fines we are able to learn the name of the freeholder levying the fine, and, if he be married, the name of his wife, and often of his children, the position and value of his estate, and not unfrequently something about his ancestors. But perhaps the chief value of this class of records is that they prove marriages and their issue at a time when parochial registers were not in existence. Few documents show so unbroken a succession from so early a date as the *Pedes Finium*, or "Feet of Fines."<sup>1</sup> The King's Silver Office-books are

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<sup>1</sup> See "Feet of Fines" edited by Joseph Hunter. Preface.

the chief indices to the Fines, but they suffered greatly from the fire at the King's Silver Office in the Temple, March, 1838. The Recovery Rolls (ever since 1834 continued, under the name of "Disentailing Assurances," on the Close Rolls) constitute also another important supplement to the study of the *Pedes Finium*. Next to the collection of Fines we may class the Judgment Rolls of this court. They formerly consisted of two parts, the *Communia Placita*, or Personal Plea Rolls, and the *Placita Terræ*, or Pleas of Lands and Deeds enrolled; but after the reign of Elizabeth the latter became distinct rolls, containing the King's silver and fines, assizes, deeds enrolled, and all real actions. The Judgment Rolls go through three stages—first, they are Plea Rolls; then, when the parties join issue, Issue Rolls; and lastly, when judgments are entered upon them, Judgment Rolls. The recording of the judgments has, however, been very much neglected, for many of the judgments, instead of being entered on the Plea or Issue Rolls, were entered on separate pieces of parchment, and thus have given rise to certain distinct bundles, called *Riders*, in which such entries are contained.

After a glance at the *Essoin* Rolls, the Declarations in Ejectment, the Certificates of Married Women, the Proceedings in Error, the *Doggett* Rolls, the Writs of Outlawries, the *Posteas*, and the Remembrance Rolls, we pass on to the court which, next to the Chancery, contains the most interesting and valuable series of documents which our Public Records possess.

The Court of Exchequer was established in England

on the model of the ancient Exchequer of Normandy, by William the Conqueror, and was not finally abolished till the reign of Queen Victoria. In the early stages of its history the Exchequer was a member of the Curia Regis, and was wont to be held in the king's palace. "It was a sort of subaltern court, partly resembling in its model that which was most properly called the Curia Regis; for in it the kings, barons, and great men who used to be in his palace, near his royal person, ordinarily presided and sat; and sometimes the king himself: in it the king's chief justiciar, his chancellor, his treasurer, his constable, his marshal and his chamberlains performed some part of their several offices . . . . It is true before the division and settlement of the king's courts the phrase Curia Regis was commonly used, in a general sense, for that great court or place of judicature the king's palace, which was properly called Curia Regis, but the Exchequer is also sometimes expressly joined with the King's Court as a member or part of it."<sup>1</sup> The origin of the name Exchequer was due to the fact that a chequered cloth (figured with squares like a chessboard) was anciently laid on the table in the place where the court was held; this chequered cloth was more convenient, owing to the squares on it, for the counting of money. "From the Latin *Scaccarium*<sup>2</sup> cometh the French *Eschequier* or *Exchequier*; and the English name from the French . . . . Polydore Virgil, speaking

<sup>1</sup> "Hist. and Antiquities of the Exchequer," by Thos. Madox, p. 105.

<sup>2</sup> "It is not absolutely certain from what original the word *Scaccarium* is deduced. Divers conjectures have been made about it; perhaps the most likely derivation of it is from *Scaccus* or *Scaccum*, a chessboard,



of the Exchequer as instituted in England by William I. intimates that it was corruptly called *Scaccarium*, but ought to be called *Statarium*, from its stability, and as it was the firm support of the crown or kingdom. . . . . I can only say that in the early times after the Conquest, and from thenceforward, it was constantly called in records *Scaccarium*, but never (for ought that I know) *Statarium*.”<sup>1</sup> The chief officers of the Exchequer were the justiciar, who was the president, the chancellor (who attended *ex-officio* upon the affairs of the revenue), and the barons. The duties that anciently devolved upon this court were. “to supervise, manage and improve the royal revenue,” to have “jurisdiction in civil causes,” and to make “charters of feoffment, confirmations and release, or other charters . . . . and sometimes conventions of divers kinds, and final concords between party and party.” Though the Exchequer was the chief place at which the king’s money was to be answered and paid in, yet payments were often made elsewhere. The Jews paid in at their own special Exchequer—the *Scaccarium Judæorum*; whilst the Camera Regis, the King’s Wardrobe, the Tower of London, and the New Temple, were all, at different times, used as receipts of the Exchequer. Gradually modern legislation began to deprive the Exchequer of much of its authority. In 1785 the Auditors of Imprest merged in the office of

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or the *ludus scaccorum*, the game of chefs . . . . and the Exchequer of England was, in all probability, called *scaccarium*, because a chequered cloth was anciently wont to be laid on the table in the court.”—MADOX.

<sup>1</sup> Madox, p. 110.

the Commissioners for Auditing Public Accounts; in 1826 the duties of the Chamberlains devolved on the Auditor of Receipt; in 1833 most of the ancient departments on the account side were abolished, and such of the ancient duties as remained were transferred to the Queen's Remembrancer; in 1834 the ancient constitution of the Receipt side was abolished; in 1842 the equity jurisdiction of the Exchequer was transferred to Chancery; and in the following year several other offices in the Queen's Remembrancer's Office were abolished and his office remodelled; this completed the abolition of the ancient Exchequer. The court is now represented as follows: the Account side by the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the office of the Queen's Remembrancer; the ancient auditors by the Commissioners for Auditing the Public Accounts; the Lord High Treasurer by the Lords of the Treasury, and the ancient Receipt side by the Bank of England and the officers of the Comptroller-General and Paymaster-General. The judicial authority of the court is in the hands of the Barons of the Exchequer. As a court of revenue the Exchequer ascertains and enforces, by proceedings appropriate to the case, the proprietary rights of the crown against the subjects of the realm. To proceed against a person in this department of the court is called to *exchequer* him. The practice and procedure on the revenue side of this court was amended by 22 and 23 Vict. c. 21, s. 9, *et seq.* As a court of common law, the Exchequer administers redress between subject and subject in all actions whatever, except real actions. It is a court of record,

and its judges are five in number, consisting of one chief and four *puisné* barons.

But though the authority of the ancient Court of Exchequer is now extinct, its valuable collection of records is in an excellent state of preservation, and remains carefully classed with our other national archives. Of this collection the *facile princeps* is the Great Roll of the Exchequer, otherwise called the Pipe Roll. As with the Close and Patent Rolls, so with the Roll of the Pipe, it is difficult to state what is and what is not entered upon its membranes. Everything which in former times went to swell the revenues of the crown—rents of various kinds, fines, amercements, profits of lands and tenements, and the like—is to be found enrolled upon it. The accounts of the ancient revenue of the crown, digested under the heads of the several counties, and annually written out in order to the charging and discharging of the sheriffs and other accountants, are also to be seen upon it. Was a great man outlawed, his goods seized, his daughter married or made a ward, the account thereof can be read in the Pipe Rolls. To the pedigree hunter these records are as useful as any, containing as they do the names of most men of property; while to the county historian they are invaluable. Few of our national archives boast a more uninterrupted succession than the Great Rolls of the Exchequer.<sup>1</sup> Beginning from the second year of Henry II. they continue to the present time with but two gaps—the loss of the

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<sup>1</sup> See "Great Roll of the Pipe," edited by Joseph Hunter. Preface.

rolls of the first year of Henry III. and those for the seventh year of Henry IV. Of the latter of these missing rolls, however, the antigraph, or roll made by the chancellor's scribe, is still in existence, and is used to supply the place of the lost roll. Besides this series, there is a roll which was long looked upon as the roll of the first year of Henry II. or by some as belonging to the fifth year of King Stephen; but recent criticism has completely established the fact that it is none other than the roll of the thirty-first year of Henry I. the earliest national documents, save *Domesday*, of any extent that now exist. The Controller's or Chancellor's Rolls (an imperfect series of duplicates of the Great Roll of the Pipe) formerly were lodged in the British Museum, but are now among the Public Records.

Another important class of documents belonging to this court, and stored with a variety of information upon secular and religious matters, are the Memoranda Rolls, which run from 2 Henry III. to about the year 1842. They contain enrolments of all the weighty business done in the offices of the Queen's and Lord Treasurer's Remembrancer. Upon their ancient membranes the searcher will read how writs ran for the recovery of debts due to the crown; how commissions were appointed to seize estates attainted or forfeited to the crown; how goods were seized in the various ports of England for the non-payment of customs; how the accounts of sheriffs and escheators were settled with the Exchequer; how cities and boroughs made claims to certain privileges; how priests and



laymen pleaded for the possession of various rights and franchises; and how the numerous proceedings in equity on English informations and bills, were conducted. The *Brevia Regia*, endorsed on the Memoranda Rolls, are the most ancient writs of that description in the kingdom; in the earlier times they assume the shape of letters, and contain various wishes of the sovereigns.<sup>1</sup>

To the antiquary and historian the collection of archives, called Originalia Rolls, which run from Henry III. to William IV. are of great service. They not only throw considerable light upon the manners and customs in vogue in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, but also record the descent of lands, questions relating to crown revenues and feudal tenures, the appointments of various commissions for different purposes of investigation, and other similar entries. The importance of the Originalia Rolls is also increased from the fact that they contain numerous extracts from early rolls now no longer in existence.<sup>2</sup>

Among the documents of the ancient Exchequer, the ecclesiastical historian will be interested in the fertile collection of ministers' accounts of the issues and profits of monastic lands in the hands of the crown; in the pensions granted to abbots and others upon the dissolution of the monasteries now enrolled amid the records of the

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<sup>1</sup> See "App. to First Report of Select Committee of House of Commons on Public Records;" *also* the works of Jones, Madox and Grimaldi.

<sup>2</sup> See Jones' "Index to the Originalia and Memoranda;" *also* Madox, "Hist. of Exchequer."

Augmentation Office ; in the accounts of monasteries contained in the Chartularies and Leidger Books, in the Account Books of First Fruits and Tenths, and in the Taxation Rolls, which regulated the taxes as well to our kings as to the popes until the survey of Henry VIII. ; in the *Valor Ecclesiasticus*<sup>1</sup> of Henry VIII. which contains surveys of archbishoprics, bishoprics, abbeys, monasteries, and the like throughout the kingdom ; in the Visitations of Religious Houses, in the Wolsey Books, and in the Nonæ Rolls.

To the antiquary, pure and simple, the collection in the Exchequer which records the history of knights' service is perhaps the most interesting. The number of knights' fees throughout the kingdom was 60,215, of which the clergy had 28,015 ; but as in process of time it became a doubtful question whether lands were held by knights' service or by some other tenure, inquisitions were held, and each baron had to return to the king an account of what he held. Such accounts, comprising as they do the early history of landed property, with the names of the owners and the extent of estates, are of considerable service to the antiquary, historian, and genealogist. For information on this subject, the three great authorities are the Black and Red Books of the Exchequer, the Scutage Rolls, and the Subsidy Rolls. Of these records the *Liber Niger Scaccarii*, or *Liber Niger Parvus*, as it is sometimes called, compiled by Gervase of Tilbury, nephew to Henry II. in the twenty-second

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<sup>1</sup> See "Introduction to the *Valor Ecclesiasticus*," by J. Hunter.

year of that king's reign, is the most ancient. It contains a list of knights' fees of the time of Henry II., and in many of the returns appear family names and particulars of the parents, children, wives, and occupiers of the land, as well as of tenants *in capite*. In this book there are also various treaties of Henry II., four bulls of Pope Alexander, and the constitution of the royal household *temp.* Henry II. The Red Book is somewhat similar to the Liber Niger, and contains, among other entries, the oaths of the different officers of the court; the *Dialogus de Scaccario* (ascribed to Gervase of Tilbury); numerous short memoranda, &c., for the instruction and use of the officers of the court; and knights' fees and serjeanties of the reigns of Henry II., Richard, John, and Henry III. Many of its entries are also in the Black Book. The Scutage Rolls, which begin in the reign of Edward I. contain the pecuniary satisfaction paid by each knight in lieu of the personal attendance upon his sovereign that was required of him. This satisfaction was called *scutagium*, or *servitium scuti* (service of the shield), and in Norman French *escuage*, from *ecu*, a shield. The assessment was, however, so arbitrary, that it was decreed by Magna Charta that no scutage should be imposed without consent of parliament. The Subsidy Rolls record the supplies given gratuitously to the king by his tenants to aid him in his wars and emergencies. In addition to the above are the Marshal's Rolls, which contain an account of the military service due from great tenants to the king on the eve of a war; the Testa de Nevil and the one solitary roll called the Constable's Roll.

Among the more important documents belonging to the ancient Exchequer collection are to be found the various enrolments of accounts and affidavits, the documents of the Augmentation Court (a rich mine to the Church historian), the voluminous series of bills and answers, the collection of special commissions, the Court Rolls of manors possessed by the crown, the decrees and orders made by the Exchequer in all causes and matters there depending, the enrolments of Escheaters' Accounts, the Exannual Rolls, the extents and inquisitions, fee farm rents, reserved upon grants from the crown, the Golden Bull of Clement VII. conferring the title of Defender of the Faith upon Henry VIII. Hearth Money accounts, the Imprest Rolls, the Judgment Rolls of the Exchequer of Pleas, the various Inventory Returns, the Jews' Rolls, the Land revenue accounts, the vast collection of crown leases, the Parliamentary Surveys of the king's Lands (*temp.* Commonwealth), the Recusants' Roll, and the curious Wardrobe accounts. The records of the treasury of Receipt of Exchequer Department are also, in an historical point of view, a most important, though not extensive collection.

In addition to the various records which we have touched upon, belonging to the Courts of Chancery, Queen's Bench, Common Pleas, and Exchequer, there is a large class of documents which appertain to obsolete courts, and many of which are of great historical value. The chief of this series are the archives belonging to the Star Chamber, the Court of Requests, the Court of



Chivalry, the Court of Wards and Liveries, the Marshalsea Court, and the records of the Welsh Courts, the jurisdiction of which latter courts ceased in 1836, when their duties were transferred to the English courts and their records moved to Fetter Lane. All these documents are open to inspection.

Belonging now to no particular court, and a record most essentially *sui generis*, is one valuable work to which we have not yet alluded, but which is among all archives what the Koh-i-noor is among diamonds. The venerable volume of the "Domesday Book"<sup>1</sup> now carefully preserved beneath a strong glass case in the room of the Curator of the Record Office, is the very father of our record literature. It consists of two volumes, a greater and a less. The first is a large folio written on 382 double pages of vellum, in a small but plain character, each page having a double column. Some of the capital letters and principal passages are touched with red ink, and the names of towns, manors, &c. have strokes of red ink run across them—the ancient mode of expressing italics. This volume contains the description of thirty-one counties. The other volume is in quarto, written upon 450 double pages of vellum, but in a single column, and in a large, but very fair character. It contains the counties of Essex, Norfolk, Suffolk, part of the county of Rutland included in that of Northampton, and part of Lancashire in the counties of York and Chester. This work, according to

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<sup>1</sup> See Sir H. Ellis' General Introduction to Domesday Book ; Domesday Book, illustrated by Kelham ; and Descriptive Catalogue of Manuscripts relating to the early History of Great Britain, vol. ii. p. 35.

the Red Book in the Exchequer, was begun by order of William the Conqueror, with the advice of his parliament, in the year of our Lord 1080, and completed in the year 1086. A reason given for taking this survey, by several ancient records and historians, was, that every man should be satisfied with his own right, and not usurp with impunity what belonged to another. The other explanation is that now all those who possessed landed estates became vassals to the king, and paid him so much money by way of fee or homage in proportion to the lands they held. This is the more probable, as there was already at that time extant a general survey of the whole kingdom made by order of King Alfred.

For the execution of the survey recorded in "*Domesday Book*," commissioners were sent into every county and shire, and juries summoned in each hundred, out of all orders of freemen, from barons down to the lowest farmers. These commissioners were to be informed by the inhabitants, upon oath, of the name of each manor, and that of its owner; also by whom it was held in the time of Edward the Confessor; the number of hides; the quantity of wood, of pasture, and of meadow land; how many ploughs were in the demesne, and how many in the tenanted part of it; how many mills, how many fish-ponds or fisheries belonged to it; with the value of the whole together in the time of King Edward as well as when granted by King William, and at the time of this survey; also whether it was capable of improvement, or of being advanced in its value. They were likewise directed to return the tenants of every degree, the quan-

tity of land then and formerly held by each of them, what was the number of villains and slaves, and also the number and kinds of their cattle and live stock. These inquiries, being first methodized in the county, were afterwards sent up to the king's Exchequer. So minute was the survey that the writer of the contemporary portion of the "Saxon Chronicle" records: "So very narrowly he caused it to be traced out that there was not a single hide, nor one virgate of land, nor even an ox or a cow, nor a swine, was left that was not set down."

For some reason left unexplained, many parts of England were not surveyed. Northumberland, Cumberland, Westmoreland, and Durham are not described in the survey.<sup>1</sup> Lancashire does not appear under its proper

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<sup>1</sup> This statement led to some correspondence in the "Times," each writer doing his best to explain the cause of the omission. The subject was taken up by the "Saturday Review," and the following opinion given:—"Durham," the writer of the article said, "and Northumberland—Northumberland in the modern sense which had then lately come into use—must have been left out because in the great ravaging of the North they had become still more utterly wasted and worthless than Yorkshire itself. The ravages of William himself in the winter of 1069-1070, the several inroads of Malcolm, the vengeance taken by Odo after the murder of Bishop Walcher in 1080, must among them have left very little in those parts which was worth surveying. As for Lancashire, it had as yet no being as a separate shire; the Ribble divided Yorkshire and Cheshire, as ages afterwards it divided the dioceses of York and Lichfield. Cumberland and Westmoreland had also no being as English shires. The southern part of the modern counties formed part of Yorkshire, and it is surveyed in Domesday as such. It is for local inquirers to trace the exact frontier, but there can be little doubt that it would be found to agree pretty nearly with the frontier of the ancient diocese of York. The northern part of modern Cumberland and Westmoreland, including the city of Carlisle, or rather its site, did not become

name ; but Furness and the northern part of the county, as well as the south of Westmoreland, with a part of Cumberland, are included within the West Riding of Yorkshire. That part of Lancashire which lies between the Ribble and the Mersey is subjoined to Cheshire, and part of Rutlandshire is described under the counties of Northampton and Lincoln. The authority of "Domesday Book" is never permitted to be called in question, and always, when it has been necessary to distinguish whether lands were held in ancient demesne or in any other manner, recourse has been had to "Domesday Book," and to that only, to determine the doubt. From this definitive

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part of the Kingdom of England till the reign of William Rufus, who in 1092 drove out Dolfin and restored the city. This Dolfin seems to have been a member of the old princely family of Northumberland, and he must have held the country under Scottish over-lordship. The country had been held by the Scottish kings as a fief ever since the grant by Eadmund the Magnificent, on the final overthrow of the old kingdom of Strathclyde. But it was only under William Rufus that it became an integral part of England. The boundaries of his conquest are no doubt represented by the boundaries of the ancient diocese of Carlisle. The notion that the country was conquered by William the Conqueror in 1072, which was held by Sir Francis Palgrave when he wrote the History of the English Commonwealth, comes only from a confused and blundering passage in the compiler known as Matthew of Westminster, who has clearly confounded William Rufus and his father. The mistake was pointed out by Lappenberg, and it was not repeated by Palgrave in his later work. That is how the case now stands. Cumberland and Westmoreland are not entered, because part of the districts now so called was not part of William's kingdom. Those parts of the modern counties which then formed part of Yorkshire are entered in their proper places. Durham and Northumberland are left out for some cause which may be called 'unexplained,' but which can hardly fail to have been because they were not worth entering."



authority, from which, as from the sentence pronounced at domesday, or at the day of judgment, there could be no appeal, the name of the book is said to have been derived. But Stow assigns another reason—namely, that “Domesday Book” is a corruption of “Domus Dei Book,” a title given it because heretofore deposited in the king’s Treasury, in a part of the church of Westminster or Winchester called Domus Dei.

In 1783 “Domesday Book” was published in two volumes, and in 1816 a volume of Indices was printed by the Record Commission, to which a very valuable “General Introduction” was prefixed. During the latter year another volume appeared, containing the Exon Domesday, comprising Wilts, Dorset, Somerset, Devon and Cornwall; the Inquisitio Eliensis, relating to the property of the Monastery of Ely; the Winton Domesday, comprising lands in Winchester between 1107 and 1128, and the Boldon Book or Survey of the Palatinate of Durham in 1183.

The amalgamation of the State Paper Office, but a few years ago, with the Record Office has been the means of rendering the series of our national archives now an almost complete collection. With the exception of certain documents in the British Museum and in a few public libraries, most of the public muniments of the realm are now placed in one Repository, and under the supervision of the Master of the Rolls.





## PUBLIC RECORDS.<sup>1</sup>



BBEY Lands. Grants of Charters, &c. entered on the Patent Rolls, Charter Rolls and Inquisitions *post mortem*. For lands conveyed in Mortmain see Inquisitions *ad quod damnum*.

SURRENDERS of Religious Houses. Entered on the back of the Close Rolls.

ACCOUNTS, Court Money, Books of. *Queen's Bench*, P. S. 1675-1837.

ACCOUNT of Moneys paid in and out of Court. *Exchequer of Pleas*, 1690-1775.

ACCOUNTS, Public, Inrolments of. *Exchequer Queen's Remembrancer*. Eliz.—1849.

ACTS of Parliament removed by Certiorari. *Chancery*. Hen. VII. to Geo. III. These are private acts, of which the titles only appear on the Parliament Rolls.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS of Deeds by Married Women, Certificates of. *Common Pleas*, 1834-1852.

Do. Index, 1834-1852.

Do. Day Books, 1834-1852. Pursuant to Statute 3 and 4 Will. IV. c. 74. "An Act for the Abolition of Fines and Recoveries, and for the substitution of more simple modes of Assurance" an officer of the Common Pleas has been appointed under the name of Registrar. The office of the Registrar is in Serjeant's Inn, Fleet Street.

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<sup>1</sup> *Contractions*.—P. S. stands for Plea side; C. S. for Crown side; L. T. R. for Lord Treasurer's Remembrancer.

ACQUITTANCES, Duchy of Cornwall. See "Miscellaneous Books."

ADMIRALS, Lord High. Appointments of, entered on the Patent and Vascen Rolls.

ADMIRALTY. Affairs of Admiralty entered on the Close Rolls.

ADVOWSONS. Matters relating to Advowsons entered on the Close and Patent Rolls.

AFFIDAVITS. *Chancery*, 1615-1852.

AFFIDAVITS of Attachment. *Exchequer of Pleas*, 1780-1832.

AFFIDAVITS of Debt. *Exchequer of Pleas*, 1772-1838.

AFFIDAVITS of Debt. *Common Pleas*, 1726-1838. After 1838, see "Affidavits, General."

AFFIDAVITS of Debt. *Queen's Bench*, P. S. 1726-1839.

AFFIDAVITS, General. *Queen's Bench*, P. S. 1733-1848.

AFFIDAVITS, General. *Exchequer of Pleas*, 1840-1849.

AFFIDAVITS, General. *Common Pleas*, 1704-1849.

AFFIDAVITS, General. In support of motions. *Queen's Bench*, C. S. 1716-1848.

Index, 1738-1844.

Do. of Increased Costs. *Queen's Bench*, P. S. 1756-1842.

AFFIDAVITS of Increase. *Exchequer of Pleas*, 1830-1842.

AFFIDAVITS before the Masters. *Queen's Bench*, C. S. 1689-1737.

AFFIDAVITS on Motion. *Exchequer of Pleas*, 1830-1842.

AFFIDAVITS, Original. *Exchequer Queen's Remembrancer*, 1572-1842.

AFFIDAVITS of Service. *Exchequer of Pleas*, 1832-1852.

AFFIDAVITS of Service. *Common Pleas*, 1727-1849. See "Deputy Keeper's 4th Report," Appendix ii.

AFFIDAVITS on Warrants of Attorney for suffering Recoveries. *Common Pleas*, 1744-1834. "These are assurances or proofs laid before the judges, that the parties' vouchers have duly signed their acknowledgments before the commissioners therein named of the Warrant of Attorney for suffering the Recovery. The judge, if his lordship approve



of the regularity, signs his allocatur of the affidavit of the acknowledgment being proved, and on this document the Recovery proceeds to perfection." See "Deputy Keeper's 4th Report," Appendix ii.

AFFIDAVITS of Service of Writs. *Queen's Bench*, P. S. 1783-1842.

AGARDE's Indexes to Assize Rolls, Coram Rege, De Banco, &c. *Queen's Bench*, C. S. Hen. III. to Hen. VI. See Appendix to 24th Report of Deputy Keeper of Public Records for an account of these Indexes.

AIDS, Matters relating to Aids, entered on the Close and Fine Rolls and to Aids of Clergy, on the Patent Rolls. For an Inventory of Aids, see 2, 3, 4 and 5 "Reports of Deputy Keeper," Appendix ii.

ALIEN PRIORIES. Matters relating to Alien Priories entered in the Close and Patent Rolls. See also "Ancient Miscellanea."

ALMAIN Rolls. *Chancery*, 18 Edward I.—15 Edward III. These Rolls relate to negotiations, treaties and other diplomatic arrangements in Germany and Flanders. The Almain Rolls may be regarded as a branch of the Close Rolls. See "Deputy Keeper's 2nd Report," Appendix ii. p. 45.

ALPHABET Books. See "Rules to Plead."

AMBASSADORS. Matters relating to appointments, powers, negotiations, &c. of Ambassadors, entered on the Patent Rolls: Credentials entered on Close Rolls. After Henry VIII., see "State Papers."

ANCIENT Miscellanea of the *Exchequer Queen's Remembrancer*. Among the numerous documents comprised under this heading are records relating to Ale-houses, Alien Priories, Apparel, Military Expeditions into Wales, Flanders, Gascony, Scotland and Ireland, the Court of Augmentations, Conspiracy of Babington, Bishops' Temporalities, various Bonds, the Channel Islands, Inventories of Church goods, Civil Service, Customs, Domus Conversorum, Escheators' Accounts and Inquisitions, Fines and Amercements, Forest Rolls, Hundred Rolls, Mines, Mint Accounts, Sheriffs' Accounts, Ulnagers'

Accounts, Writs of Distringas, Subsidies, &c. See "Appendix to 20th Report of the Deputy-Keeper of the Public Records."

ANSWERS. See "Bills and Answers."

ANSWERS, Replications and Decrees. See "Charitable Uses."

APPAREL, matters touching. See "Ancient Miscellanea."

APPEARANCES. *Exchequer of Pleas*, 1833-1850.

APPEARANCE Books. *Exchequer of Pleas*, 1576-1850.

APPEARANCE Books. *Exchequer Queen's Remembrancer*. 1588-1841.

APPEARANCE Books, Town and Country. *Queen's Bench*, P. S. 1738-1843.

Do. in Ejecment. *Queen's Bench*, P. S. 1728-1833.

APPEARANCE Books, London and Middlesex. *Common Pleas*. 1735-1849. *Index*.

Do. Various Counties. *Common Pleas*, 1729-1849.

APPEARANCE and Presentment Books. London and Middlesex. B. *Queen's Bench*, C. S. 1820-1822.

APPEARANCE and Presentment Books. A. *Queen's Bench*, C. S. 1725-1843.

ARMS. Grants of Arms, Blazons, &c., entered on Patent and Charter Rolls.

ARMY. Matters relating to fitting out of Armies, entered on Close Rolls.

ARMY Accounts. See "Miscellaneous Books."

ARRAY. Commissioners of Array, entered on the Patent Rolls.

ART. Matters relating to Art (especially in the reign of Henry III.), entered on the Close Rolls.

ASSAY Roll. See "Mint."

ASSIZE Rolls, Divers Counties. *Queen's Bench*, C. S. 25 Henry III.—38 Henry VI.

Do. *Index*. 1 Edward I.—19 Henry VI. See also "Coram Rege" and "Agarde's Indexes."

ASSOCIATION Rolls. *Chancery*, 1696. Rolls signed by the Commons in 1696, with reference to the Assassination Plot.

ATTACHMENT Books. *Exchequer of Pleas*, 1808-1832.

ATTAINERS. Matters relating to Attainers, entered on the Clofe and Parliament Rolls.

ATTORNEY. Letters of Attorney, entered on the Patent Rolls.

ATTORNIES' Admission Books. *Common Pleas*, 1775-1814. After this date at Common Pleas Office.

ATTORNIES' Admissions. *Queen's Bench*, P. S. 1749-1837, after 1837 in use at Queen's Bench.

ATTORNIES' Oath Roll. *Queen's Bench*, P. S. 1750-1842.

ATTORNIES, Roll or Book of. *Queen's Bench*, P. S. 1729-1842.

ATTORNIES' Certificate Book of Residence. *Queen's Bench*, P. S. 1785-1828, after 1828 in use at Queen's Bench.

ATTORNIES' Oath Roll. *Common Pleas*, 1789-1843.

AUDLEY, writings touching Lord. See "Miscellaneous Books."

AURUM Reginae. Matters relating to the Queen's Gold, entered on the Clofe Rolls. See "History of Exchequer," by Madox, pp. 240, 241.

AWARDS. Entered on the Plea or Judgment Rolls of the different Courts; also on the Decree Rolls.



ABINGTON, Conspiracy of. See "Ancient Miscellanea."

BAGA de Secrètis. *Queen's Bench*, C. S. 17 Edward IV.—George III. Containing Proceedings on Attainers, &c. See "Deputy Keeper's Reports," 3, 4 and 5. See also, as an index, "Controlment Rolls."

BAIL Books. *Common Pleas*, 1721-1848.

BAIL Books. *Exchequer of Pleas*, 1830-1847.

BAILS, Entries of. *Queen's Bench*, P. S. 1813-1844.

BAILS by Original. *Queen's Bench*, P. S. 1738-1833.

BAILS, Common. *Queen's Bench*, P. S. 1616-1844.

BAILS, Inrolments of the Entries of. *Queen's Bench*, P. S. 1664-1813.

BAILS, Entries of. *Exchequer Queen's Remembrancer*, 1725-1842.

BAIL Files. Series I. *Exchequer of Pleas*, 1818-1838.

Do. Do. II. *Exchequer of Pleas*, 1831-1847.

BAILS upon Certiorari, Records of. *Queen's Bench*, C. S. 1698-1848.

BAILS and Recognizances. *Exchequer Queen's Remembrancer*, 1760-1842. See also "Recognizances."

BAILS, Special. *Queen's Bench*, P. S. 1625-1834.

BAIL Books, Special. *Queen's Bench*, P. S. 1793-1821.

BAILS, Country. *Queen's Bench*, P. S. 1760-1831.

BAILS taken in Court. *Queen's Bench*, C. S. 1687-1848.

BAILS, Calendar of. *Queen's Bench*, C. S. 1 Charles I.—13 William III.

BANCO Placita de, &c. (or Plea Rolls). *Common Pleas*, Henry III.—1849.

Do. Before Edward I. See also "Coram Rege," *Queen's Bench*.

BANCO Placita de. Index. See "Agarde's Indexes." The records under this heading are of various natures. First they are *Plea* Rolls, then when the parties join issue they are called *Issue* Rolls, and when the judgments are entered become *Judgment* Rolls. The entering of the judgments has been much neglected and the judgments have become *Riders*. The Judgment Rolls consist of two parts: 1, Personal Plea Rolls or "Communia Placita;" 2, Pleas of Land and Deeds inrolled called "Placita Terræ." An inventory of the judgment or Plea Rolls will be found in the Deputy Keeper's 3rd and 4th Reports, Appendix, and of the Placita Terræ in the 3rd and 7th Reports, Appendix.

BANKRUPTCY, Deeds of. See "Close Rolls," indexed under name of first Commissioner from 1831 to present time; before 1831 at Bankruptcy Commissioners' Office.

BANISHMENT, matters relating to, entered on the Close and Patent Rolls.



BARGAIN and Sale, Deeds of, entered on the Close Rolls.

BARGAINS and Sales. See "Church Livings."

BARGAINS and Sales. *Common Pleas*. These are entered on the Rolls "Placita Terræ," which are fastened up with the Judgment Rolls till 25 Elizabeth, after which date they form distinct rolls.

BARONETS, Creation of, entered on the Patent Rolls.

BARON'S Depositions. See "Depositions, &c."

BENEFICES, Presentations to, entered on the Patent Rolls.

BILLS, Answers and Depositions. *Chancery*, 1452-1852.

For proceedings in Filaciis, see "Deputy Keeper's seventh Report," Appendix. See also Report 5, Appendix ii. p. 38 for Inventory of Bills filed 1452-1603. Indexes to above, 1673-1842.

BILLS, Answers, Depositions, &c. *Court of Star Chamber*. See "Deputy Keeper's 3rd Report," Appendix ii. also "Record Report," 1800, p. 39.

BILLS, Answers, Replications and Rejoinders. *Exchequer Queen's Remembrancer*, Elizabeth—1841. Abolished in 1841. For further proceedings, see "Chancery Proceedings."

BILL Books. *Chancery*, 1673-1852.

BILL Books, Indexes. *Exchequer Queen's Remembrancer*, Elizabeth—1841. After 1841, see "Chancery Indexes."

BILLS of Costs, Taxed. *Exchequer of Pleas*, 1830-1856.

BILLS against Attornies. *Common Pleas*, 1771-1832.

Do. Supplementary. *Common Pleas*, James II.—George IV.

BILLS against Prisoners. *Queen's Bench*, P. S. 1760-1837.

BILLS against Attornies. *Queen's Bench*, P. S. 1782-1832.

BILLS of Middlesex (Alphabet Books). *Queen's Bench*, P. S. 1817-1838.

BILLS and Writs. *Exchequer of Pleas*, 3 Edward III.—1850.

BISHOPS' Returns. See "Certificates of Institutions."

BISHOPS' Patents. *Chancery*, 1725 to present time. Anciently entered on the Patent Rolls. See "Deputy Keeper's Second Report," pp. 31. 44. (At Petty Bag Office.)

BISHOPS' Temporalities. See "Ancient Miscellanea."

BLACK Book. *Exchequer Queen's Remembrancer*, Henry III. Contains Will of Henry II., various Treaties entered into by Henry II. four Bulls of Pope Alexander, Knights' Fees, Constitution of the Royal Household temp. Henry II. and several charters.

BLACK Book. *Exchequer Treasury of Receipt*. Contains a Perpetual Calendar for finding the Dominical Letters from 1184-1688; an Almanack with statements of Remarkable Occurrences; the tract known as the "Dialogus de Scaccario," and various entries relating to the Receipt of Exchequer, &c. See Nicholson, "English Historical Library," p. 173. There is a Black Book of the Irish Exchequer.

BLACK Book. See "Vetus Codex."

BOOKS of entries of Fines and Recoveries. *Common Pleas*, 1611-1834.

BONDS. *Exchequer First Fruits and Tenths*, 1658-1820.

BONDS of Receivers-General, &c. *Exchequer Queen's Remembrancer*. 1700-1842.

BREVIA Regia. *Chancery*, 9 Charles I.—24 George III. Consist of Writs of Ad quod Damnum, Dedimus to swear Masters Extraordinary in Chancery, Justices of the Peace and Sheriffs, Certioraris to remove records, &c.



CAMBRIDGE University. See "Miscellaneous Books."

CARDINAL's Bundles or Inquisitions. *Chancery*, Henry VIII. Consist of Inquisitions taken of the several Monasteries, &c. surrendered to Cardinal Wolsey, and Inquisitions taken after the Cardinal's death.

CARDINAL College, collections relating to. *Exchequer Treasury of Receipt*, Henry VIII.

CARTÆ Antiquæ. *Augmentations*, various dates.

CARTÆ Miscellanea. *Augmentations*, various dates.

CARTÆ Antiquæ. *Chancery*, Saxon period Henry III. Consist of miscellaneous exemplifications, and are the earliest of the Chancery Records, being Grants and Charters dating from the time of Ethelbert. See "Reports of Deputy Keeper of Public Records," 2, 27 and 29, Appendix, also Ayloffe's "Calendar," p. xlviii.; Bayley "History of Tower of London," p. 219.

CAPIAS, Præcipes for Writs, &c. *Common Pleas*, 1800-1849. See "Deputy Keeper's 4th Report," Appendix ii.

CAPTION of Seisin. *Exchequer Queen's Remembrancer*, Edward III.

CAUSE Papers. *Exchequer Queen's Remembrancer*, 1691-1841.

CAUSE Books (Registrars). *Chancery*, 1735-1848.

CAUSE Papers. *Chancery*, 1806-1843.

CAUSE Term Books. *Chancery*, 1662-1800.

CERTIFICATES, &c. *Exchequer Land Revenue Dep't*, Certificates and Answers from Ministers of Parishes as to the Foundations and Endowments of Chantries, Hospitals, Colleges, &c. Also Certificates relating to the Companies of the City of London.

CERTIFICATE Books of Attornies' Admissions. *Common Pleas*, 1786-1843.

CERTIFICATES of Institutions, called Bishops' Returns, certifying the induction of clerks to livings. *Exchequer First Fruits and Tenths*, 1558-1843.

CERTIFICATES of Statutes Staple. *Chancery*, 21 Henry VIII.—24 Charles I.

CERTIFICATES of Livings under £50. *Exchequer First Fruits and Tenths*, 5 Anne.

CERTIFICATES of Colleges. See "Colleges," &c.

CERTIORARI Bundles. *Chancery*, 6 Henry VIII.—40 George III. Consist of Acts of Parliament removed by Certiorari and a few Judgments removed from the Star Chamber and other courts at various periods.

CHANCELLORS' Rolls. *Exchequer L. T. R. and Pipe*, 36 Henry III.—3 William IV.

CHANCERY and Chancellors. Matters relating to, are entered on the Close Rolls.

CHANCERY Proceedings. See "Bills, Answers, &c."

Do. Miscellaneous. *Chancery*, Henry VI.—Charles II.

CHANNEL Islands. See "Ancient Miscellanea."

CHAPTER House Records. See "Deputy Keeper's 21st Report," Appendix. These records now belong to the Exchequer Treasury of Receipt.

CHARITABLE Uses Commissions. Inquisitions and Decrees of Commissioners of, pursuant to Stat. 43 Elizabeth, c. 4. *Chancery*, Elizabeth—1743. Conveyances for Charitable Uses are entered on the Close Rolls.

CHARTERS and Deeds. *Augmentations*, various dates.

CHARTERS of Edward III. and Black Prince. See "Exchequer of Receipt."

CHARTER Rolls. *Chancery*, John—Henry VIII. Consist of Grant of Privileges to Cities, &c., Grants of manors, &c., privileges to religious houses, &c. After 8 Henry VIII. grants from the Crown were made in the form of Letters Patent, and are on the Patent Rolls. See Introduction to the printed volume "Rotuli Chartarum" and "Deputy Keeper's Reports" 2, 3, 29 and 30, Appendix.

CHARTULARIES and Leidger Books. *Exchequer Queen's Remembrancer*.

Do. *Augmentations Dep't*. See "Deputy Keeper's 8th Report," Appendix ii.

CHIVALRY, Court of, matters relating to, entered on the Close and Patent Rolls. See "Deputy Keeper's 3rd Report," Appendix ii. Records of this court will be found at the Herald's College.

The Court of Chivalry was anciently held as a court of honour merely, before the Earl-Marshal, and as a criminal court before the Lord High Constable, jointly with the Earl-Marshal. It had jurisdiction as to contracts and other matters touching deeds of arms or war, as well as pleas of life or member. It also corrected encroachments in matters of coat-armour, precedence, and other distinctions of families. It has now grown entirely out of use, on account of the feebleness of its jurisdiction and want of power to enforce its judgments, as it could neither fine nor imprison, not being a court of record.



CHURCHES. Valuation of. *See* Taxation Roll.

CHURCH Livings, Parliamentary Surveys of, temp. Commonwealth, at Lambeth Palace. Bargain and Sales of Church Livings, same date, *see* Close Rolls.

CINQUE Ports. Matters relating to, entered on the Close Rolls.

CIVIL Service. *See* "Ancient Miscellanea."

CLOSE Rolls. *Chancery*, 1204-5—1870. *See* "Deputy Keeper's 2nd Report;" "Introduction to the Close Rolls," by Sir Thomas Hardy. For Awards of Inclosure Commissioners, *see* "Deputy Keeper's 27th Report," Appendix.

COINAGE, matters relating to, entered on the early Close Rolls; also on the Patent Rolls.

COLLEGES, matters relating to, entered on the Patent Rolls.

COLLEGES and Chantries, certificates of. *Augmentations*, Henry VIII.—Edward VI.

COMMISSION Books. Entries of special Commissions, and Commissions for taking Depositions. Index, Series I.

*Exchequer Queen's Remembrancer*, 16 Elizabeth—1840.

Do. Series II. 15 Elizabeth—4 James II.

COMMISSIONS, Inquisitions and Decrees. *See* "Charitable Uses."

COMMISSION, Special. *Chancery*, James I. to present time. To inquire of Estates Forfeited or Escheated to the Crown with the inquisitions and traverses thereon.

COMMON Rolls. *See* "Banco, Placita de."

COMPOSITION Books. *Exchequer First Fruits and Tenths*, 1537-1795.

COMPTROLLERS' Payments. *Exchequer First Fruits and Tenths*, 1681-1799.

CONCORDS of Fines. *See* "Fines, Concorde of."

CONFIRMATION Rolls. *Chancery*, 1 Richard III.—12 James I. Consist of Confirmations of Charters to Cities, Boroughs, and to various corporate bodies and private persons. Before the reign of Richard III. Confirmations were entered on the Patent and Charter Rolls. Since the date of 12 James I. all Confirmations have been enrolled promiscuously with other Patents

on the Patent Rolls. See "Deputy Keeper's 4th Report," Appendix.

CONTROLMENT Rolls. *Queen's Bench*, C. S. 1 Edward III.—1843. Minutes of the Chief Proceedings in Crown Causes.

CONVICTS' Returns. *Queen's Bench*, C. S. 1785-1827.

CORAM Rege, &c. *Queen's Bench*, C. S. Richard I.—1701-2.

\* \* At this date the Plea Rolls were separated from the Crown Rolls. See "Judgment or Plea Rolls."

CORAM Rege, now called Crown Rolls. *Queen's Bench*, C. S. 1701-2—1848. Contain all Indictments, Informations, and other similar proceedings to which the parties have pleaded.

CORAM Rege Rolls. See "Judgment Rolls."

CORN, Matters relating to, entered on the Close and Patent Rolls.

CORNWALL, Duchy of, Miscellaneous Accounts of, &c. *Augmentations*, Elizabeth—Charles II.

CORNWALL, Survey of. *Exchequer Queen's Remembrancer*, 11 Edward III.

CORONATION Rolls. *Chancery*, 1 Edward II.—Victoria. This series is imperfect. The Rolls contain the commissions and proceedings of the Commissioners appointed to hear and determine claims of service to be performed at coronations, and the oath taken and declaration made and signed by the King or Queen when crowned. Coronation matters are also to be found entered on the early Close Rolls. See "Deputy Keeper's 2nd Report," Appendix ii.

CORONERS, matters relating to, entered on the Close Rolls.

COUNTERPARTS of Leafes. See "Leafes," &c.

COUNTY Bags (England and Wales). *Exchequer Treasury of Receipt*, Henry III.—Charles II. See "21st Report," Appendix.

COUNTY Placita, Brevia Regia, &c. *Chancery*, Edward I.—Edward IV.

COURT Rolls. (Of Crown Manors only.) *Chancery*, 17 Edward I.—1687. See "Deputy Keeper's 2nd Report," Appendix ii.

COURT or Manor Rolls. *Augmentations*, Edward I.—Charles I.

COURT Rolls. See "Welsh Records."

CREATIONS of Nobility. Entered on the Patent and

Charter Rolls. *See* Appendix to "Report on the Dignity of a Peer of the Realm."

CROWN Lands. For Grants and Leafes, *see* Patent Rolls; for the deeds conveying Crown Lands by Bargain and Sale, *see* Close Rolls. All conveyances and leafes of Crown Lands are now made under the hands and seals of the Commissioners of Woods and Forests, and enrolled at the Office of Land Revenue Records and Enrolments.

CROWN Rolls. *See* "Coram Rege."

CRUSADES, matters relating to, entered on the Close Rolls.

CURIA Regis Rolls. *Exchequer Treasury of Receipt*, Richard I.—Henry III. These Rolls are printed from 6 Richard I. to 1 John in 2 vols., under the title of "Rotuli Curiae Regis."



DAY Books of Receipts of Tenths. *Exchequer First Fruits and Tenths*, Canterbury, 1718-1838; York, 1717-1839.

DECLARATIONS. *Exchequer of Pleas*, 1820-1850.

DECLARATIONS. *Queen's Bench*, P. S. 1781-1842.

Do. in Ejectment. *Queen's Bench*, P. S. 1728-1848.

DECLARATIONS in Ejectment. *Common Pleas*, 1704-1842. *See* "Deputy Keeper's 4th Report," Appendix ii.

DECLARATIONS against Prisoners. *Common Pleas*, 1706-1849. *See* "Deputy Keeper's 4th Report," Appendix ii.

DECREES Enrolled. *See* "Charitable Uses."

DECREES and Orders, Entry Books of. *Chancery*, Henry VIII.—1799. Contain Decrees and Dismissions of the Court of Chancery. After 1799 at the Report Office.

DECREES and Orders, Original, and Entry Books of. *Exchequer Queen's Remembrancer*, 1580-1841.

DECREES and Orders, *Index*. 1 Elizabeth—31 Charles II.

DECREES, *Index*. 28 Charles II.—1841.

ORDERS, *Index*. 1686-1841.

DECREES, Enrolments of. *Chancery*, Henry VIII. to present time. This series only contains such Records as were ordered to be enrolled for certain purposes.

DE DIEM CLAUSIT EXTREMUM, Writs of. See "Fine Rolls."

DEEDS Enrolled. See "Close Rolls."

DEEDS Enrolled. *Queen's Bench*, P. S. See "Judgment Rolls."

DEEDS enrolled. *Common Pleas*. Before East. 25 Elizabeth, see "Common Rolls;" East. 25 Elizabeth to Hil. 1834, see "Recovery Rolls;" East. 1834, to March, 1837, see "Pleas of Land;" Hil. 1838, to March, 1849, see "Common Rolls."

DEEDS enrolled, *Indices*.

See "Doggett Rolls" before 1595.

"Special Remembrance Rolls," 1595 to 1648.

"Doggett Rolls," 1648 to 1655.

"Doggett Books," 1655 to 1848, under the head of "Special Remembrances."

DENIZATIONS, Grants of, entered on the Patent Rolls.

DEODANDS, matters relating to, entered on the Close Rolls.

DEPOSITIONS taken before the Barons, called "Barons' Depositions." Also Depositions taken by Commission. *Exchequer Queen's Remembrancer*, Elizabeth—1841.

DISENTAILING Assurances, 1834 to 1870. See "Close Rolls;" before 1834, see "Recoveries," *Common Pleas*.

DISPENSATION Rolls. *Chancery*, 37 Elizabeth—20 George II. They do not run regularly. These Rolls contain the Dispensations and Faculties which passed the Great Seal.

DOCKET Rolls. See "Welsh Records."

DOGETT Books. *Exchequer of Pleas*, 1 Elizabeth—1849. See "Judgment Rolls Repertories," from Edward IV. to Henry VII.

DOGETT Books. *Common Pleas*, 1692-1849. See "Deputy Keeper's 2nd Report," Appendix ii.

DOGETT Books, Great. *Queen's Bench*, C. S. 6 Charles I.—1843.



DOGGETT Books of Judgments. *Queen's Bench*, P. S. 1656-1839; cease in 1839 and entries continued in "Judgment Day Books." Before 1656, *see* "Doggett Rolls."

DOGGETT Papers, Calendar of. *Queen's Bench*, P. S. 9 Charles I.—27 George II.

DOGGETT Rolls. *Queen's Bench*, P. S. 1390-1655. (After 1655, *see* "Doggett Books.")

DOGGETT Rolls. (Special Remembrancer Rolls.) *Queen's Bench*, P. S. 1595-1648. For continuation, *see* "Doggett Books."

DOGGETT Rolls, *Index*. *Queen's Bench*, 1 Henry VIII.—1849.

DUCHY of Lancaſter Records. Theſe valuable documents were preſented by Her Majeſty in 1868 to the nation, and are now depoſited in the Record Office. They are, however, entirely diſtinct from the Palatinate Records, "which, though *public*, are purely local, while the Duchy muniments, though *private*, concern the government and juriſdiction of the entire dominion of the Duchy, and embrace the county palatine as a ſubordinate regality." For a ſketch of the hiſtory of the Duchy of Lancaſter, and for a liſt of the principal manuſcripts and documents in the collection of the Records of the Duchy, *ſee* 30th, 31ſt, 32nd, and 33rd "Reports of Deputy Keeper of Public Records."

DURHAM Records. By the Public Records Act, 1 and 2 Vict. c. 94, the Records of the then lately aboliſhed Courts of the Palatinate of Durham were placed under the charge of the Maſter of the Rolls, and are now among the archives of the Record Office. For a ſketch of the hiſtory of the Palatinate, and for the documents comprized in the collection of the Durham Records, *ſee* "Reports of the Deputy Keeper," 29, 30, 31 (App.) 32 (App.), 33 (App.)



ERROR, Transcripts of Records in. *Queen's Bench*, P. S. George III. and George IV.

ERROR, Writs of. Entered on the Clofe Rolls.

ERROR, Writs and Judgments in (from Ireland). *Queen's Bench*, C. S. 10 George II.—14 George III.

ERROR, Writs of. *Queen's Bench*, C. S. 1698-1741.

ERROR, Transcripts of Records in. *Queen's Bench*, C. S. 1750-1797.

ESCHEATORS' Accounts, Enrolments of. *Exchequer L. T. R. and Pipe*, 33 Edward I.—22 James I. See also "Ancient Miscellanea."

ESCHEATORS, Appointments of. Entered on the Fine Rolls.

ESCHEATS, Chancery. John—Charles II. See Cooper on "Public Records," vol. i. pp. 332-341. Nicholas on "Public Records," pp. 77-79; and Grimaldi, p. 144.

ESCHEATS. Entered on the Clofe Rolls.

ESSOIN Rolls. *Queen's Bench*, P. S. 3 Henry VII.—40 George III.

ESSOIN Rolls. *Common Pleas*, 10 Henry III.—38 George III. Containing the excuses for those who do not appear in Court according to the summons of the writ. These Rolls may be considered as partial indices to the actions entered on the Issue or Judgment Rolls. See "Deputy Keeper's 2nd Report," Appendix ii.

ESTREATS. *Exchequer L. T. R. and Pipe*, 5 Edward VI.—5 William IV. An Estreat is the true extract, copy, or note of some original writing or record, and especially of recognizances, fines, amercements, &c., entered on the rolls of a court to be levied by the bailiff or other officer.

ESTREATS of Fines and Recognizances. *Queen's Bench*, C. S. 1677-1833.

ESTREATS of Forfeited Recognizances. *Queen's Bench*, C. S. 1603-1832.

ESTREAT Rolls. See "Welsh Records."

EXANNUAL Rolls. *Exchequer L. T. R. and Pipe*, Edward I.—4 George III.

EXCHANGE Rolls. *Chancery*, 6-17 Richard II.; 2-14 Henry IV.; 1—12 Henry VI. See "Deputy Keeper's 2nd Report," Appendix ii.

EXCHEQUER, matters relating to, entered on the Clofe Rolls.

EXCHEQUER of Receipt, viz. :—

Pells.

Auditors.

Among these documents are Assignment Books, Blood Money Certificates, Declaration Books. (See 2nd and 6th "Reports," Appendix.) The Liberate Rolls (Henry III. and Edward I.), Norman Pipe Roll, Barons' Letter, Charters of Edward III. and the Black Prince, Papal Bulls and Briefs (see 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Reports," Appendix), Pells' Issue Rolls, Receipt Rolls, Imprest Books (see, 7th "Report," Appendix ii.), Issue Books, Patent Books, Privy Seal Books (see 4th and 5th Reports," Appendix), Warrant Books and Order Books, Tellers' Bills, Original Privy Seals, Gentleman Pensioners Rolls, Account Books, Bills of the Day, Forms relating to Exchequer Bills, &c. &c. (See Appendices to 20th and 24th "Reports of Deputy Keeper of the Public Records," also the 29th "Report.")

EXCHEQUER of Receipt. *Treasury*. See 24th "Report of the Deputy Keeper of Public Records" for the documents belonging to this Court.

EXHIBITS. *Queen's Remembrancer*, various dates.

EXTENTS and Inquisitions, &c. *Queen's Remembrancer*, 1685-1842.

EXTRACT Rolls. *Chancery*, 45 Henry III.—6 Richard II. Contain abstracts, from the Charter, Patent and other Rolls, of Grants from the Crown. See "Deputy Keeper's 2nd Report," Appendix ii.

EXTRACT Rolls. *Queen's Bench*, P. S. Edward II.—Henry V.



AIRS, Grants of, entered on the Patent and Charter Rolls.

FEE Farm Rents. *Augmentations*, Commonwealth. See "Deputy Keeper's 20th Report."

Do. *Chancery*, 8-13 Charles

I. and 22 Charles II.

FEE Farms. Accounts of Fee-farm Rents entered on the Pipe Rolls.

FEET of Fines. See "Fines, Feet of."

FIATS. *Queen's Bench*, C. S. 1732-1837.

FINE Rolls. *Chancery*, 6 John—23 Charles I. Contain accounts of Fines paid to the King for licenses to alienate lands, for exoneration of knighthood, for wardships, safe conduct and pardons, for patents to escheators, customers, &c., for writs de diem clausit extremum, &c. See "Deputy Keeper's 2nd Report," Appendix ii.

FINES and Amerciaments (Wales). *Exchequer Queen's Remembrancer*, 1681-1827.

FINES and Recoveries, Enrolments of Writs for. *Common Pleas*, 23-24 Elizabeth—10 Anne.

FINES and Recoveries for Wales to 1830. See "Welsh Records in the Public Record Office." From 1830 to 1834, see "Fines and Recoveries," *Common Pleas Records*.

FINES, Concords of. *Common Pleas*, 1 Elizabeth—6 William IV.

FINES, Feet of. *Common Pleas*, Henry II. to 1834. In 1834 abolished. See "Acknowledgments of Deeds by Married Women."

There were five essential parts to the levying of a fine :—(1) The original writ of right, usually of covenant, issued out of the Common Pleas against the conusor, and the præcipe, which was a summary of the writ and upon which the fine was levied ;



(2) the royal license (*licentia concordandi*) for the levying of the fine, for which the Crown was paid a sum of money called King's silver, which was the post-fine, as distinguished from the præ-fine, which was due on the writ ; (3) the consuance, or concord itself, which was the agreement expressing the terms of the assurance, and was indeed the conveyance ; (4) the note of the fine, which was an abstract of the original contract or concord ; (5) the foot of the fine, or the last part of it, which contained all the matter, the day, year, and place, and before what justices it had been levied. A fine was said to be engrossed when the chirographer made the indentures of the fine and delivered them to the party to whom the consuance was made. The chirograph or indentures were evidence of the fine. Fines and Recoveries were abolished by Stat. 3 and 4 William IV. c. 74. See "King's Silver Books."

FINES, Feet of, and Placita de Banco. *Common Pleas*, Richard I.—Henry VIII. Index for certain counties (*see* Appendix, 24th "Report," p. 26).

FINES, Rolls of, called "Post Fines." *Exchequer L. T. R. and Pipe*, 38 Elizabeth—1837.

FISHERIES, matters relating to, entered on the Close Rolls.

FLEETS, matters relating to. Entered on the Close Rolls.

FOREIGN Accounts, Enrolments of. *Exchequer, L. T. R. and Pipe*. Henry III.—Charles II.

FOREST Rolls. *Chancery*, John—Charles I. See "Deputy Keeper's 5th Report," Appendix.

FOREST Rolls. *Exchequer, Treasury of Receipt*, Edward I.—Charles II. See "21st Report," Appendix.

FOREST Rolls. See "Welsh Records."

FRANCHISES, matters relating to. Entered on the "Memoranda Rolls."

FRENCH Rolls. *Chancery*, 26 Henry III. to Charles I. See "Deputy Keeper's 2nd and 3rd Reports," Appendix.



AOL Delivery Rolls. *Queen's Bench*, C. S. 4 Edward I.—38 Henry VI. Index to ditto, 28 Edward I.—19 Henry VI.

GASCON Rolls. *Chancery*, 26 Henry III.—7 Edward IV. Relate to Gascony while under the dominion of England. See "*Carte's Catalogue*."

GAVELKIND, matters relating to, entered on the Close Rolls.

GENEALOGY, matters relating to. See "*Inquisitions post mortem*," "*Fine Rolls*," and "*Chancery Proceedings*."

GOLDEN Bull. *Exchequer, Treasury of Receipt*. Bull of Clement VII. confirming the title of Defender of the Faith to Henry VIII. Called the Golden Bull from its having a seal of solid gold.

GRANTS, Particulars for. *Augmentations*, Henry VIII.—James I.

GRANTS and Inquisitions. *Exchequer, Queen's Remembrancer*, Richard I.—15 Charles II.



ABEAS Corpus. Writs entered on the Close Rolls.

HENRY the Eighth, Will of. See "*Miscellaneous Books*."

HERETICS, matters relating to, entered on the Close Rolls.

HOMAGE, matters relating to, entered on the Close Rolls.

HOMAGE Rolls. *Chancery*, Edward I. The Homage Roll is called the Ragman Roll, on which are recorded the

instruments of homage and fealty to Edward I. sworn by the clergy and barons of Scotland.

HOUSEHOLD, Royal, matters relating to, entered on the Close Rolls.

HOUSEHOLD Books. *Chancery*, Henry VIII.—Edward VI.

HOUSEHOLD and Wardrobe Accounts. *Exchequer*:—

Household Rolls. *Exchequer of Receipt*, Henry III., Edward I., II.

Household Books. *Exchequer of Receipt*, Prince Charles (Charles I.)

Wardrobe Accounts. *Queen's Remembrancer*, Edward I. and II.

Do. *Pipe Department*, Edward II.—James I.

Liber Garderobe. *Treasury of Receipt*, Edward III.

Accounts of the Great Wardrobe. *Treasury of Receipt*, Henry VII. and VIII. See "Deputy Keeper's 7th Report," Appendix.

Receipts of the Wardrobe. *Land Revenue Department*, 7 Edward I.

Accounts of Wardrobes, Jewels, &c. *Land Revenue Department*, Edward VI., Elizabeth, &c. The Wardrobe was abolished in 1782.

HUNDRED Rolls. *Chancery*, Edward I.—Edward II. These Rolls "afford evidence upon the oath of a jury of each hundred and town in every county (Bedford, Buckingham, Cambridge, Oxford and Huntingdon are, however, the only counties now possessing this evidence) of all the demesne lands of the Crown, whether ancient or newly acquired by escheat or purchase; manors, &c. formerly in the hands of the Crown, the persons holding the same, the authority and how alienated," &c. The whole of the Hundred Rolls are printed in two folio volumes. See Preface to those volumes.



DIOTS and Lunatics, matters relating to, entered on the Close Rolls.

IMPREST Accounts, Entries of. *Exchequer Queen's Remembrancer*, 1707-1834.

IMPREST Books. See "Exchequer of Receipt."

INCLOSURES. Awards are entered on the Judgment or Plea Rolls of each Court among the Deeds. See "Deputy Keeper's 7th Report," Appendix.

INDENTURES. Entered on the Close Rolls.

INDICTMENT Rolls. See "Welsh Records."

INDICTMENTS, London and Middlesex and Out Counties. *Queen's Bench*, C. S. 1675-1848. Index to, see "Controlment Rolls" and "Pye Books."

INFORMATIONS, Excise. *Exchequer Queen's Remembrancer*, George III.—1838.

INQUIRIES, Writs of. *Common Pleas*, 1650-1854.

INQUISITIONS, *Post mortem*, on Prisoners in the Queen's Bench. *Queen's Bench*, C. S. 1746-1838.

INQUISITIONS, *ad quod damnum*. *Chancery*, Henry III.—39 Henry VIII. Taken by virtue of writs directed to the escheator of each county when any grant of a market, fair, or other privilege was demanded, to inquire whether such grant would be prejudicial to the interests of the King or of any of his subjects. See Nicholas on the "Public Records," pp. 43, 44; Cooper, vol. i. p. 296; and Grimaldi, p. 219.

INQUISITIONS *post mortem*. See "Escheats." These Inquisitions contain the inquiries on oath of what lands any particular person died seized of, and by what rents or services such lands were held, who was the next heir and what was his age. For Calendar of Heirs extracted from Inquisitions, 1 and 2 Edward II. see "Deputy Keeper's 32nd Report," Appendix.



INSTITUTION Books. *Exchequer, First Fruits and Tents.*

Series A, 1556-1660.

Series B, 1660-1816.

Series C, 1660-1836.

INTERROGATORIES, Contempts and Answers, on Attachments. *Queen's Bench, C. S. 1701-1838.*

INVASIONS, matters relating to, entered on the Close and Patent Rolls.

INVENTIONS. See "Specification Rolls."

IRELAND, matters relating to, entered on the Close and Patent Rolls. See also "Irish Rolls."

IRISH Rolls. *Chancery, 1 & 47 to 50 Edward III.*

ISSUE Books. See "Exchequer of Receipt."

ISSUE Rolls. See "Judgment Rolls."



JEWEL Rolls. *Exchequer of Receipt, Elizabeth.*

Account of the Jewels of Henry VI. *Treasury of Receipt.*

Accounts of the Jewel House 24 Henry VIII. *Treasury of Receipt.*

JEWELS. Inventory of the Jewels of Queen Ann of Denmark. *Land Revenue Department.*

Do. Inventory of Jewels of Charles I. pawned in the Low Countries, *Land Revenue Department.*

JEWES' Rolls. *Exchequer Queen's Remembrancer.* Memoranda Rolls of the Exchequer of the Jews, on which are enrolled, "Effonia, Placita et Starra."

Jews' Rolls. *Exchequer of Receipt, Henry III. and Edward I.*

Do. *Exchequer of Pleas.* Pleadings before the Justices of the Jews from 3 Henry III.

Jews. *Chancery, 19 Edward I.* The Roll of Taxation deals with the houses and property of Jews. Matters concerning the Jews, entered on the Close, Patent and Fine Rolls.

JUDGMENT Books, Special. *Common Pleas*, 14 Charles II.—1837.

Do. Common. *Common Pleas*, 1651-1837.

JUDGMENT, Entry Books. *Exchequer of Pleas*, 1830-1849.

Do. Index, 1830-1849.

JUDGMENTS, Index to Entry Book of Judgments called "Day Books." *Queen's Bench*, P. S. 1736-1848.

JUDGMENTS, Issues, &c. Entry Books of. *Queen's Bench*, P. S. 1699-1848.

JUDGMENT Rolls. See "Banco, Placita de."

JUDGMENT Rolls, Calendar of Enrolments. *Exchequer of Pleas*, 1293-1820.

JUDGMENT Rolls, Repertories. *Exchequer of Pleas*, Edward IV.—Henry VII.

Do. Doggett Books. See "Doggett Books."

JUDGMENT or Plea Rolls. *Queen's Bench*, P. S. 1702-1848.

\* \* Before 1702, see "Coram Rege," Crown side. (For Awards of Inclosure Commissioners, see Appendix "27th Report.")

JUDGMENT Rolls or Plea Rolls. *Exchequer of Pleas*, 53 Henry III.—1849. (For Awards of Inclosure Commissioners, see Appendix "27th Report.")

JUDGMENT or Plea Rolls before the Justices of the Jews. *Exchequer of Pleas*, 3 Henry III.—14 Edward I.

JURY Lists, Grand. *Queen's Bench*, C. S. 1747-1848.

JUSTICES in Eyre, Rolls of. See "Welsh Records."



ING'S Silver Books. *Common Pleas*, Elizabeth.—4 William IV. These books contain entries of all Fines passed through the office in alphabetical order of counties, and give the names of the parties, the description of the property, and where situated, the return day of the Writ of Covenant, the

names of the Commissioners before whom taken, and the date of such caption, with the amount of the *pre* and *post* Fines which had been paid thereon. The King's Silver Office Books suffered greatly from the fire at the King's Silver Office in the Temple, March, 1838.

KING'S Silver Enrolments. See "Banco, Placita de."

KIRBY'S Quest. *Exchequer, Treasury of Receipt*, 35 Edward I. "In 35 Edward I. Adam Kirkeby or Kirby, then Treasurer, and his fellows, made inquiry, according to the ancient custom, by inquests or verdicts of juries, concerning the tenures in capite throughout several of the shires of England; and the result of these verdicts or inquests was a volume which in some respects is analogous to Domesday, inasmuch as it comprehends all the immediate military tenants of the Crown." In the Queen's Remembrancer Department there is an Inquest styled "Kirkby's Inquest."

KNIGHTS. Fines for exoneration from Knighthood entered on the Fine Rolls. Matters relating to Knight Service and to the Knights Hospitallers and Templars entered on the Close Rolls.

KNIGHTS' Fees. See "Black and Red Books of the Exchequer" and "Testa de Nevill."



LANCASTER, Duchy of. See Duchy of Lancaster.

LAND and Assessed Tax Accounts, Entries of. *Exchequer Queen's Remembrancer*, 1689-1850; before 1689, see "Subsidies."

LANDS, matters relating to, entered on Patent, Fine, Close, Confirmation, Liberate and Hundred Rolls. See also "Inquisitions" and "Domesday Book."

LAND Revenue Department, Records of. See "Record Report of 1800," pp. 169-205.

LATITATS, Entry Books of. *Queen's Bench*, P. S. 1785. 1842.

LATITATS, Enrolments of the Issue of. *Queen's Bench*, P. S. 1630-1823. Latitat (*he lies hid*), a writ, whereby all persons were originally summoned to answer in personal actions in the Queen's Bench; so called because it is supposed by the writ that the defendant lurks and lies hid, and cannot be found in the county of Middlesex (in which the Court is holden) to be taken by bill, but has gone into some other county to the sheriff of which this writ was directed to apprehend him there.

LAWS, matters relating to, entered on the Close Rolls.

LEASES. *Exchequer L. T. R. and Pipe*, 1604-1822.

LEASES, Conventual. *Augmentations*, various dates.

LEASES, Counterparts of Crown Leases. *Exchequer Queen's Remembrancer*, 1677-1831.

LEASES, Particulars for. *Augmentations*, Henry VIII.—James I.

LEDGERS, Cant. and York. *Exchequer First Fruits and Tenths*, 1658-1838.

LIBERATE Rolls. *Chancery*, 2 John—14 Henry VI. Consist of Precepts directing the payment of sums of money or for a sheriff to deliver possession of lands or goods which had been extended. See Bayley, "History of Tower of London," p. 222; also Grimaldi, p. 136. The Rolls of John contain various matters connected with the expenditure of the Royal Household. See also "Exchequer of Receipt."

LICENCES and Pardons. *Common Pleas, Alienation Office*, 1571-1650.

LOLLARDS, matters relating to, entered on the Patent Rolls.

LUNACY Commissioners, &c. *Chancery*, Charles I.—1783.





AINPRISE Rolls. See "Welsh Records."

MANORS, Matters relating to. See Inquisitions *post mortem*, Court Rolls and Decree Rolls.

MANUFACTURES, Matters relating to, entered on the Close Rolls.

MARSHAL'S Surrender and Committitur Books. *Queen's Bench*, P. S.—1719-1838.

MEMORANDA Rolls. *Exchequer L. T. R. and Pipe*, 1 Henry III.—3 and 4 William IV.

MEMORANDA Rolls. *Exchequer Queen's Remembrancer*, 1 Henry III.—1850. (For Awards of Inclosure Commissioners, see Appendix 27th Report.) *Memoranda Indexes* called "Agenda Books," 35 Henry VIII.—1848.

These rolls contain writs of *scire facias* and proceedings thereon for recovery of debts due to the Crown; writs of Ex-tents; special commissions; commissions of inquiry; forfeitures arising to the Crown; transcripts of outlawries; recognizances; grants and patents under the great and privy seals; warrants and constitutions under the sign manual; numerous orders, decrees, and proceedings in equity on English informations and bills—in short, enrolments of all the business of weight done in the office. See Report of the Lords' Committees, April 1719, pp. 54, 76; Madox' Hist. of Exchequer, vol. ii. p. 114; Jones's "Index to the Originalia and Memoranda," Preface, p. xxxi.; and "Cooper on the Public Records," vol. ii. pp. 331-6.

MEMORIALS of Annuity Deeds. *Chancery*, 1813-1854. Before 1813 see "Close Rolls," after 1854 see Common Pleas, "Registers of Judgments."

MINES. Matters relating to, entered on the Close and Patent Rolls.

MINISTERS' Accounts of the King's Revenues. Henry III. to 7 Henry VIII. *Court of Exchequer*. Accounts of all lands in the hands of the Crown.

Do. 7 Henry VIII. to 27 Henry VIII. *Ex-*

*chequer Court of General Surveyors.* Lands purchased, attainted, or exchanged, and Crown lands.

Do. 27 & 28 Henry VIII. to 37 & 38 Henry VIII. *Exchequer Court of Augmentations.* Possessions of the dissolved Monasteries and Lands purchased or exchanged.

Do. *Exchequer Court of General Surveyors.* Lands attainted and Ancient Crown Lands.

Do. 38 Henry VIII. to 1 Mary. *Exchequer New Court of Augmentations*, with which the Court of General Surveyors was amalgamated.

Do. 1 Mary to Charles II. *Court of Exchequer.* After Charles II. at Land Revenue Record Office.

MINISTERS' ACCOUNTS. See "Welsh Records."

MINT :—

Indenture between the Queen and Sir Isaac Newton, 1702. *Exchequer Queen's Remembrancer.*

Assay Roll. *Treasury of Receipt.* Edward I.

Indentures between the Sovereign and Masters of the Mint. *Treasury of Receipt.* Edward III.—Charles I.

Rolls of the Trial of the Pix, &c.

MINUTE BOOKS. *Exchequer L. T. R. and Pipe.* 3 James II.—35 George III.

MINUTE BOOKS. *Chancery.* 1639-1700.

MINUTE BOOKS. *Exchequer of Pleas.* 1657-1830.

MINUTE BOOKS. *Exchequer Chamber, Exchequer Queen's Remembrancer.* 1695-1841.

MINUTE BOOKS. Common, *Exchequer Queen's Remembrancer*, 1616-1821. After 1821 at Exchequer Office.

MISÆ Roll. *Chancery*, 11 John. Contains account of the expenses of the Court of King John during the 11th year of his reign.

MISCELLANEOUS BOOKS. *Augmentations*, various dates. Under this title are comprised "Acquittances, Duchy of Cornwall," James I.—Charles I.; "Acts of Parliament for Purchase and Exchange of Lands and for establishing Court of Augmentations," 3 to 28 Henry VIII.; "Army Accounts," 5 Henry VIII. and 1647-1650; "Writings touching Lord

Audley," 36 Henry VIII.—39 Elizabeth; "Henry the Eighth's Scheme of Bishopricks;" "Will of Henry VIII.;" "Survey of Calais," 1556; "Oxford and Cambridge Universities," 37 Henry VIII.; "Foundations and Possessions of Colleges," Henry VIII.; and various volumes of Depositions, Surveys of Lands, Entries of Indentures, Copies of Leases (for Calendar of Crown Leases *see* Appendix to 25th Report); Accounts of the King's Ships, and the like.

MISCELLANEOUS Books. *Chapter House*. *See* "21st Report," Appendix.

MISCELLANEOUS Rolls. *Exchequer, Treasury of Receipt*. Edward I.—Charles II. These Rolls consist of Court Rolls, Warrants, Privy Signets, Indentures, Petitions, Exemplifications of Grants, Depositions, Tin coinage accounts, &c. *See* "21st Report," Appendix.

MISCELLANEOUS Rolls. *Chancery*. John—1662. *See* Deputy Keeper's "2nd and 3rd Reports," Appendix.

MORTMAIN. Matters relating to, entered on the Close Rolls.

MORTMAIN. *Exchequer Treasury of Receipt*—7 to 30 Edward I. Rolls of Lands given in Mortmain. *See* "Record Report," 1800, p. 41.



NAMES of Barons of Exchequer, *Exchequer Queen's Remembrancer*, 8 Edward II. — 27 Elizabeth.

NATURALIZATION, Certificates of. August 6, 1844, to August 1870. *See* "Close Rolls." Afterwards at the Home Office.

"NICHIL" or "Nihil" Rolls. *Exchequer L. T. R. and Pipe*, Charles I.—William IV. Contain all the Nichilled Debts transcribed from the Rolls of the Clerk of the Estreats.

NISI Prius Records. *Common Pleas*, 1770–1837.

NONÆ Rolls. *Queen's Remembrancer*, Edward III. Inquisitions returned to a Commission issued (15 Edward III.)

for assessing a ninth of the value of corn, wool and lambs granted to the King in aid of his wars. They also specify the value of every benefice. The Nonæ Rolls have been printed by the Record Commissioners. See Preface to the printed work, also Record Report, 1800, and Grimaldi "*Origines Genealogicæ*," p. 56.

NORMAN ROLLS, *Chancery*.

Charter . . . .	2 John.
Clofe . . . .	5 „
Contra brevia . . . .	2 and 4 John.
Liberate . . . .	46 and 47 Henry III.
Oblata . . . .	2 John.
Patent and Charter . . . .	20 Edward III.
Patent . . . .	5—10 Henry V.
De Valore Terrar. . . .	6 John.

"These Rolls contain such letters and grants of the Kings of England as almost exclusively relate to the provinces over which, whilst annexed to the English Crown, our monarchs exercised the same authority as in this kingdom; and these letters and grants of liberties and privileges, together with the confirmations of previously enjoyed rights, being entered upon rolls of parchment similar to those appropriated to English affairs, have been ever since preserved, as of record, amongst the muniments of the Court of Chancery. The Gascon, Norman and French Rolls elucidate in an eminent degree numerous important points in the history of France, and its relation with other States. They supply information relative to the different orders of society, as well ecclesiastical as secular; and the documents which they contain refer to a period of about two centuries and a-half, and are the only evidences of many rights and privileges still enjoyed by the inhabitants of several of the French provinces, for which reason they are frequently consulted as affording proofs of the enrolments of decisions in contests regarding patrimonial rights." See Preface to "*Rotuli Normanniæ*," by Sir Thomas Hardy. Also "*Carte's Catalogue*," 2 vols.





Q<sup>U</sup>ATH Rolls of Catholic Attornies. *Common Pleas*, 1791-1829.

Do. of Clergymen. *Common Pleas*, 1789-1836.

Do. of Qualification. *Common Pleas*, 1779-

1847.

OATHS. Entered on the Close Rolls. See also First Report on Public Records, 1800, pp. 216-232.

OBLATA Rolls. *Chancery*, 1, 2, 3 and 9 John. These contain offerings and free gifts to the King. See "Deputy Keeper's 2nd Report," App.

OFFICES, Surrenders of. *Chancery*, Charles I.

OFFICES, Particulars for Grants of. *Augmentations*. Henry VIII.—Charles II.

ORDER BOOKS. *Exchequer, L. T. R. and Pipe*. 35 Charles II.—3 and 4 William IV.

ORDER BOOKS. *Exchequer of Pleas*, 3 Edward VI., 1830.

ORDERS and Decrees. See "Decrees."

ORDERS, Records of. *Queen's Bench*, C. S., 1693-1848. "All Writs of Certiorari to remove orders and other proceedings of inferior courts, and all other writs issued on the Crown side with their returns, and writs issued out of the Court of Chancery and returned into the Queen's Bench, put up in files and endorsed 'Record of Orders.'"

ORIGINALIA Rolls. *Exchequer, L. T. R. and Pipe*, Henry III.—3 and 4 William IV. These are the estreats transmitted from Chancery of all grants of the Crown enrolled on the Close, Patent, Fine and Redisseisin Rolls, wherein any rents are reserved, any salary payable or any service to be performed. See "Jones' Index" and "Record Report," 1837. Also Preface to Printed Abstract, and "Cooper on Public Records," pp. 342-347. Vol. I.

OUTLAWRY BOOKS. *Common Pleas*, 1752-1848.

OUTLAWRIES. *Exchequer, Queen's Remembrancer*, Charles I.—William IV.

OUTLAWRIES, Proceedings in. *Queen's Bench*, C. S., 1739-1844.

OXFORD University. See "Miscellaneous Books."



PALACE Court, Records of:—

This Court was erected 6 Car. I., and had jurisdiction to hold pleas of all manner of personal actions between any parties, within twelve miles of the Palace at Whitehall, not extending into the city of London. This Court was held before the Steward of the Household and Knight Marshal, and the Steward of the Court or his Deputy; abolished in 1849. Among the Records of the Palace Court are:—Judgment Rolls, Oaths of Office, Appointments of the Officers of the Court, Affidavits, Bails, Cause Papers, Declarations, Jury Panels, Præcipes, Writs, Venires, Receipts and Payments, Rule Papers and the like.

PAPAL Bulls. *Chancery*, John—Henry VI. A few Papal Bulls are entered on the Close Rolls. See "Deputy Keeper's 5th Report," Appendix. Papal Bulls and Briefs see "Exchequer of Receipt."

PARDON Rolls. *Chancery*—22 Edward I.—2 James I. Pardons will be found entered on the Close Rolls; pardons of alienation and special and general pardons, on the Patent Rolls, and fines for pardons on the Fine Rolls. See "Deputy Keeper's 2nd and 3rd Reports," Appendix.

PARLIAMENT Rolls. See "Statutes and Rolls of Parliament." These Rolls run irregularly, and contain numerous breaks in their succession; when complete, they relate the various transactions from the opening to the close of each Parliament.

PARLIAMENT PAWNS. *Chancery*, 21 Henry VIII. to 1818. Bundles, containing abstracts of Writs of Summons and Writs of Election, issued on the calling of a new Parliament.

PARLIAMENTARY Surveys. *Exchequer Queen's Remembrancer*. See "Record Report," 1837, pp. 158 and 160.

PARLIAMENTARY Surveys. See "Surveys," &c.

PARLIAMENTARY Writs and Returns of Members to serve in Parliament. *Chancery*, 1654—1837.

PARTICULARS for the Sale of Estates of Charles I., the Queen, and Prince. *Exchequer L. T. R. and Pipe*.—Commonwealth.

PARTICULARS for Leafes. See "Leafes," &c.

PATENT Rolls. *Chancery*, 3 John to 33 Victoria. For full particulars respecting the nature of these Rolls, see the Introduction to the Printed Volume of the Patent Rolls, by Sir Thomas Hardy. See "Reports," 2, 3, and 6.

PATENTS, matters relating to, entered on the Memoranda Rolls.

PAYMENT Books. *Exchequer First Fruits and Tenths*.

Receivers'. Ditto. 1759-1823.

Remembrancers'. Ditto. 1793-1823.

PEERS, Creation of. See Charter, and Patent Rolls.

PELL's Issue Rolls. See "Exchequer of Receipt."

PERAMBULATION Rolls. *Chancery*, 7, 8, and 29 Edward I. These contain the metes and bounds of all the Royal Forests. There are also a few of these Rolls of Henry III.

PETITIONS. *Exchequer Queen's Remembrancer*, George III. —1841.

PETITIONS to Parliament. *Chancery*, Edward I.—Henry VII.

PETTY Bag. Proceedings on Scire Facias. *Chancery*, Elizabeth—24 George III.

PEVERIL Court, Books of. This Court was established by William I., with a jurisdiction over certain parts of Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire: by subsequent grants, the jurisdiction was much extended. Abolished in 1849. There are no records belonging to this Court, but the substance of each

pleading, &c. is entered in a large folio volume, called the *Præcipe Book*. Of these books there are about twenty.

PIPE ROLLS. *Exchequer L. T. R. and Pipe*. 31 Henry I.; 2 Henry II.—3 and 4 William IV. (For List of Sheriffs of the English Counties, from 31 Henry I. to 4 Edward III., *see* "31st Report," Appendix.) For accounts of the Pipe Rolls, *see* Grimaldi "*Origines Genealogicæ*," pp. 36, 37; Ayloffe, p. xii.; Cooper on the "Public Records," vol. i. pp. 312-317.

PIRACY, Matters relating to, entered on the Close Rolls.

PLACITA. *See* "Chancery Proceedings."

PLACITA Aulæ. *Marshalsea Court*, Edward I.—Edward III. This Court was instituted to administer justice between the King's domestic servants; the Lord Steward and Earl Marshal presided over it. Abolished in 1849.

PLACITA de Banco. *See* "Banco, Placita de."

PLACITA de Quo Warranto. *Queen's Bench*, C. S., 8 John—6 and 7 Elizabeth.

Index, Do. Henry III.—Edward IV. *See also* "Crown Rolls" and "Controlment Rolls."

PLACITA Exercitus Regis. *Court of Chivalry*, 24 Edward I.

PLACITA Terræ. *See* "Banco, Placita de."

PLAGUE, Matters relating to, entered on the Close Rolls.

PLANS. *See* "Specification and Close Rolls."

PLEA ROLLS. *See* "Banco, Placita de."

PLEA ROLLS. *See* "Judgment Rolls."

PLEA ROLLS. *See* "Coram Rege."

PLEA ROLLS. *Exchequer. First Fruits and Tenths*. Mary—George II.

PLEA ROLLS. *See* "Welsh Records."

PLEAS, Replications, and Rejoinders. *Common Pleas*, 1781-1834.

PLEAS, Day Books of. *Queen's Bench*, P. S. 1738-1834.

PLEAS of Land. *See* "Banco, Placita de."

POLL TAX. Matters relating to, entered on the Close Rolls.

PONTAGE. Grants of, entered on the Patent Rolls.

POOR. Matters relating to, entered on the Close Rolls.



PORT Books. *Exchequer, Queen's Remembrancer*, 1428-1799.  
See Record Reports, 1800, p. 137, and 1837, p. 208.

POSTEAS. *Common Pleas*. Elizabeth to 1852.

Posteas and Inquiries. Index. 1718-1814.

POSTEAS. *Queen's Bench*, C. S. 1664-1839.

POST Fines. *Common Pleas, Alienation Office*.

Series I. . . . . 1759-1831.

Do. II. . . . . 1780-1833.

Do. III. . . . . 1759-1794.

These record the fines on alienation of lands. Post Fines.  
See "Fines, Roll of."

PRAYER-BOOK. *Queen's Bench*, P. S. Known as the sealed copy of the "Book of Common Prayer," pursuant to Statute 14 Charles II.

PRAYER-BOOK. *Common Pleas*, 14 Charles II. Known as the sealed copy of the "Book of Common Prayer," pursuant to Statute 14 Charles II.

PRAYER-BOOK. *Chancery*. Known as the Sealed Copy of the "Book of Common Prayer," pursuant to Statute 14 Charles II.

PRÆCIPES for Issue of Writs. *Queen's Bench*, P. S. 1783-1842.

PRÆCIPES for Issue of Writs. *Exchequer of Pleas*, 1830-1846.

PRÆSTITA Rolls. *Chancery*. 12 John. See "Deputy-Keeper's 2nd Report," Appendix.

PREROGATIVE, Royal. Matters relating to, entered on the Close Rolls.

PRESENTATIONS. Entered on the Patent Rolls.

PRESENTMENTS to Grand Juries. *Queen's Bench*, C. S. George III.—William IV.

PRISONERS' Papers. *Common Pleas*, 1722-1837.

PRIVY Council. Matters relating to, entered on the Close Rolls.

PRIVY Seals and Signet Bills. *Chancery*. Edward I.—1870. The Privy Seal Bundles contain all Privy Seals directed to the Lord Chancellor or Lord-Keeper of the Great Seal for

the passing under the Great Seal of any grant for the King which has passed the Signet and Privy Seal.

The bundles of Signed Bills contain all bills signed by the King which pass the Great Seal by immediate warrant without passing the Privy Seal at all. See "Deputy-Keeper's 5th Report," Appendix.

PRIVY Seal Books. See "Exchequer of Receipt."

PROCESS Books. *Queen's Bench*, C. S. George II.—George IV.

PROCESS Book. *Exchequer. First Fruits and Tenths.* 29 Henry VIII.—1817.

PROTECTION Rolls. *Chancery*, 10, 11, 24, 25, 26, 34, and 35 Edward I. See "Deputy-Keeper's 2nd Report," Appendix. Vascon Roll of Protections, 22 Edward I.

PROTECTIONS. Letters of, entered on the Close and Patent Rolls.

PYE Books, London and Middlesex. *Queen's Bench*, C. S. 1673-1844.

Do. Out Counties. *Queen's Bench*, C. S. 1661-1844.

These are Books of Reference to indictments alphabetically and numerically entered.



QUO Warranto Rolls. *Exchequer, Treasury of Receipt*, Edward I.—III. See Preface to the "Placita de Quo Warranto."

Quo Warranto Rolls. See "Welsh Records."



AGMAN Roll. *See* "Homage Roll."

RECEIVER'S ACCOUNTS. *Augmentations*:—

England. 4 Edward IV.—17 Charles I.

Wales, Henry VIII.—Philip and Mary.

RECOGNIZANCE Rolls. *See* "Welsh Records."

RECOGNIZANCES. *Chancery*, Henry VIII. to 1870. Since Henry VIII. these have been entered on the Close Rolls.

RECOGNIZANCES, Entries of. *Exchequer Queen's Remembrancer*, Philip and Mary—1837.

Do. *Chancery*, 32 Henry VIII.—32 George II.

RECORD BOOKS. *Exchequer of Pleas*, 1812-1852.

RECOVERY BOOKS. *Common Pleas*, 12 Anne—1835.

RECOVERY Rolls or "Placita Terræ." *Common Pleas*, 25 Elizabeth—1834; before 25 Elizabeth *see* "Common Rolls;" after 1834 continued under the name of "Disentailing Assurances," enrolled in Chancery Close Rolls. Recovery Index, 1507-1834.

These Rolls contain the whole proceedings, including the final judgment in all Real Actions, the bulk of which consist of common recoveries, together with enrolments of Bargain and Sales and other conveyances, deeds to make tenants to præcipes, and to lead to the uses of fines and the like. They contain the proceedings on levying a fine of lands, also proceedings in Quare Impedit, dower and in partitions. *See* "Deputy Keeper's 3rd and 7th Reports," App. For awards of Inclosure Commissioners, *see* "27th Report," Appendix.

RECUSANT Rolls. *Exchequer, L. T. R. and Pipe*, 34 Elizabeth—William and Mary. (*See* "Deputy Keeper's 5th Report," Appendix.)

RED BOOK. *Exchequer Queen's Remembrancer*. The Red Book of the Exchequer contains "Oaths of Officers of the Court," "De libertate ecclesiæ," &c. "Constitutio domus Regis," "Dialogus de Scaccario," a collection of Scutages, various Inquisitions, Papal Bulls, Treaties, Charters, &c. *See*

“Madox,” Vol. I. p. 624, and “Grimaldi,” p. 53. There is a Red Book in the Irish Exchequer.

REDISSEISIN Rolls. *Chancery*, 14 Edward I.—39 Henry VI.—Consist of writs to, and proceedings of, Sheriffs for the restoration of lands and tenements to those, from whom they had been unlawfully dispossessed. See “Deputy Keeper’s 2nd Report,” Appendix.

REGISTERS of Judgments. *Common Pleas*, 1838-1849. After 1849 at Registry of Judgments, Common Pleas.

RELIGIOUS Houses. Surrenders of, entered on the back of the Close Rolls.

REMEMBRANCE Books. *Common Pleas*, 1800-1849. (Called Master’s, but formerly “Secondaries’ Remembrance Books.”)

REMEMBRANCE, Books of. *Exchequer Treasury of Receipt*, Edward I. *Liber A.*—Contains papal bulls, documents relating to marriage treaties, grants to the Crown, transactions with the Welsh Princes, Irish affairs, &c. &c.—*Liber B.*—Contains treaties between France and England, documents relating to truces, papal bulls, grants of land, charters, &c.

REMEMBRANCE Rolls. See Memoranda Rolls.

REMEMBRANCE Rolls. *Common Pleas*, 6 Henry VIII.—1770. (Rules, &c. for Judgments and Pleas of Land.)

REMEMBRANCE Rolls, *Common Pleas*, 1770-1849. (Rules, &c. for Judgments.)

REMEMBRANCE Rolls for Recoveries. *Common Pleas*, 1770-1850. (For Pleas of Land only).

The Recovery Remembrance Rolls contain the entries and præcipes for suffering common recoveries, with the records of the tenants’ appearances in court, names of demandants, tenants, vouches, and description of lands to be passed. See “Deputy Keeper’s 4th Report,” Appendix II.

The Remembrance Rule Rolls contain the entries of all rules and orders of court, præcipes for attachments of privilege and appearance thereto, and rules for judgment on *scire facias* to 1779, after which the entries are in books. See “4th Report,” Appendix II.

The Filacers Remembrance Rolls contain short notes of



writs to compel appearances. See "4th Report," Appendix II.

REMEMBRANCES, Special. See "Doggett Rolls."

REPERTORIES, Various. *Exchequer, L. T. R. and Pipe, John—31 George III.*

REPORTS of Bank Stock, purchased, &c. *Exchequer Queen's Remembrancer, 1648—1841.*

REPORTS, *Chancery, 1544-1799.*

REQUESTS, Court of. Records of:—An equity Court for poor men's suits, which were made to the King by supplication and right, administered to paupers without payment of money. Virtually abolished by 16 Charles I. The records of this court (which are all useful for pedigrees and local histories), are Affidavit and Appearance Books, Returns of Commissions, Order and Decree Books, Process Books, &c. See "Record Report," 1800, p. 174.

REVENUE. Matters relating to, entered on the Close Rolls.

ROLLS of Parliament, Proceedings and Statutes. *Chancery, Edward I.—Henry VIII.* After Henry VIII. see "Journals of the House of Lords."

ROMAN Catholics. Settlements and Wills of, Entered on the Close Rolls.

ROMAN Rolls. *Chancery, 34 Edward I.—31 Edward III.* Many of the entries relate to France. See "Deputy Keeper's 2nd Report," Appendix.

ROYAL Letters. Entered on the Close and Patent Rolls. Separate documents of Royal Letters run from Richard I.—Richard III. See "Deputy Keeper's Reports, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7, Appendix.

RULE Books, or Records of Rules. *Exchequer of Pleas, 1811-1849.*

RULES to plead (Alphabet Books). *Exch. of Pleas, 1819-1849.*

RULES, Entries of. *Queen's Bench, C. S. 1589-1846.*

RULES, Entry Books of. *Queen's Bench, P. S. 1603-1848.*

At common law, rules on the plea side of the courts are common, being obtained from the master, without motions by counsel; or *special*, obtained upon motion by counsel.

Those granted upon motion by counsel may be classed under the following heads :—1st. Those which are granted upon the motion-paper, being merely signed by counsel without any motion being actually made in court. 2ndly. Those which are considered so much as a matter of course, that the grounds of the motion are not particularized by counsel, and where, in some instances, counsel may hand the motion-paper to one of the masters, without making the motion *vivâ voce*; and, 3rdly. Those which are granted upon the grounds of the motion being particularized by counsel.



ACRAMENT Certificates. *Queen's Bench*, C. S. 1676-1828. Of those who took the oaths required by the Test Act.

SAFE Conduct. Letters of, entered on the Patent Rolls; Fines for, on the Fine Rolls, and Writs of, on the Treaty Rolls.

SALARIES. Matters relating to payment of, entered on the Liberate and Close Rolls.

SATISFACTION Pieces or Certificates. *Common Pleas*, 1752-1837. As soon as a judgment is satisfied, by payment, levy, or otherwise, the defendant is entitled to have satisfaction entered upon the roll.

SATISFACTIONS. *Queen's Bench*, P. S. 1647-1842.

SCHOOLS. Particulars for Grants for. *Augmentations*. Edward VI.

SCOTCH Rolls. *Chancery*, 19 Edward I.—7 Henry VIII. Relating to political, naval, military, civil and ecclesiastical transactions concerning Scotland. Printed by the Record Commission.

SCROPE and Grosvenor Rolls. *Court of Chivalry*, Richard II.

SCUTAGES, Aids, Tallages, &c. *Exchequer*, *Queen's Remembrancer*. See Deputy Keeper's 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th "Reports," Appendix II.

SCUTAGE. Matters relating to, entered on the Close Rolls.

SEALS belonging to the Baron's Letter. *Augmentations*.  
29 Edward I.

SEALS, Miscellaneous, from Chapter-House. *Augmentations*.  
Various dates.

SEIZINS. Livery and feizin of lands entered on the Close Rolls.

SHAFTESBURY Papers. For a list of the deeds and papers relating to the Cooper Family: "many of the highest historical value and importance," *see* Appendix to the 33rd "Report of the Deputy Keeper."

SHERIFFS' Accounts. *Exchequer, L. T. R. and Pipe*. Henry VI.—1660, Series I.

SHERIFFS. Matters relating to, are entered on the Fine and Pipe Rolls.

SIGNET Bills. *Chancery*. Edward I.—1870.

SOLICITORS' or Attornies' Roll of Admission on Equity side of the Exchequer. *Exchequer Queen's Remembrancer*, 1772-1841.

SPECIAL Commissions. *See* Commissions, Special.

SPECIAL Commissions. *Exchequer Queen's Remembrancer*.  
—Elizabeth—William IV. *Index*.

SPECIAL Pleas. *Exchequer Queen's Remembrancer*. Elizabeth.  
1842.

SPECIAL Remembrancer Rolls. *See* "Doggett Rolls."

SPECIFICATION Rolls. *Chancery*.

Specifications enrolled on Close Rolls, Anne—1848.

Specification and Surrender Rolls, Anne—1848. Petty Bag.  
Do. Do. Rolls Chapel.

Specification Rolls, 1849-1852. *See* "Close Rolls."

Do. 1852, &c. *See* Patent Office.

STANNARIES, Devon and Cornwall, Accounts of. *Augmentations*, Elizabeth—James I.

STANNARIES. Matters relating to, entered on the Close Rolls.

STAPLE Rolls. *Chancery*, Edward III.—Richard II., and 1-39 Henry VI. For Inventory of Certificates of Statutes Staple, Extents returned thereon, and Liberates, *see* "Deputy Keeper's 2nd and 4th Reports," Appendix.

STATUTE ROLLS. *Chancery*, Edward I.—Edward IV. (Acts of Parliament).

Parliament ROLLS. *Chancery*, 1 Richard III.—Victoria (Acts of Parliament).

Parliament ROLLS (Proceedings). See “Rolls of Parliament.”

The *Statute Rolls* are records of Chancery of the highest authority, on which were entered the several Statutes, when drawn up in form, for the purpose of being proclaimed and published. The earliest Statute Roll now known to exist is that which commences with the Statute of Gloucester, 6 Edward I. The Statute Rolls are only six in number, and run as follows:—First Roll, Statutes from 6 Edward I. to 50 Edward III., but this roll does not contain all the Statutes which have been printed as of that period. Second Roll—Statutes temp. Richard II., there is also a separate Roll of one membrane, containing a duplicate of the Statutes 21 Richard II. Third Roll—Statutes temp. Henry IV. and V. Fourth Roll—Statutes 1 Henry VI. to 8 Henry VI. Fifth Roll—Statutes 25 Henry VI. to 39 Henry VI. Sixth Roll—Statutes 1 Edward IV. to 8 Edward IV. This is the last Statute Roll now known to exist, none of a later date having been found. The enrolments of *Acts of Parliament* contain the Acts of Parliament certified and delivered into Chancery. These records are commonly called Parliament Rolls, and are variously endorsed, some with the phrase “Enrolments of Acts.” From 1 Richard III. to 3 Charles I. they comprehend several other proceedings of Parliament, besides the acts enrolled. After 5 Henry VII., they may be considered in effect as coming in the place of the Statute Roll. To 25 Henry VIII. they contain all the acts, public and private, which were passed in every session. From 25 Henry VIII. to 35 Elizabeth, several of the private acts, and afterwards to 3 Charles I., all the private acts are omitted, their titles only being noticed. From 16 Charles I. to 31 George II., the enrolments contain nothing but the public acts and the titles of the private acts, with the several forms of assent, without any other Parliamentary



matter ; and from George II. their contents are the same, with the omission of the titles of the private acts.

STATES of Accounts. *Exchequer L. T. R. and Pipe*, 21 Charles I.—2 William IV.

STATUTES Staple. *Chancery*, 1 Henry VIII.—9 Anne.

SUBPŒNA Books. *Exchequer of Pleas*, 1785-1832.

SUBSIDY Rolls. *Chancery*, Edward III.—Elizabeth. See "Deputy Keeper's 2nd Report," Appendix.

SUBSIDY and Tax Rolls. *Queen's Remembrancer*. See "Deputy Keeper's 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th Reports," Appendix.

SUMMONS of the Pipe. *Exchequer L. T. R. and Pipe*, 32 Henry VI.—3 William IV.

SURRENDER Rolls. *Chancery*, Charles II.

SURRENDERS. See "Specifications."

SURRENDERS of Monasteries, Deeds of. *Augmentations*. Hen. VIII. See "Deputy Keeper's 8th Report," Appendix II.

SURVEYS. See "Hundred Rolls" and "Inquisitions."

SURVEYORS General, Establishment of Court of, Minute Book of Court of, Decrees enrolled, Leafes enrolled. *Augmentations*, Henry VIII. (For Calendar of Decrees of the Court of General Surveyors, 34-38 Henry VIII., see Appendix to 30th "Report of Deputy Keeper.")

SURVEYS, known as Parliamentary Surveys. *Augmentations*. Commonwealth. (See "Deputy Keeper's 7th and 8th Report," Appendix.)

SWEARING Rolls. *Queen's Bench*, C. S. 1673-1848.



TALLAGE. Matters relating to, entered on the Close Rolls.

TALLIES. Matters relating to, entered on the Close Rolls.

TAX Accounts, Duplicates. *Exchequer Queen's Remembrancer*, 1586-1830.

**TAXATION Roll.** *Chancery*, 20 Edward I. "The taxation of ecclesiastical benefices made in the Pontificate of Pope Nicholas IV., 1292, by which all taxes to the King and Pope were regulated, and the statutes of colleges founded before the Reformation, are interpreted, and according to which benefices under a certain value are exempted from the restriction in the Statute 21 Henry VIII., concerning pluralities." The Roll has been edited by the late Record Commissioners. *See* Preface.

**TAXATION Roll.** *Exchequer Queen's Remembrancer*. "There are original Rolls for several dioceses, besides which there are two volumes, containing the taxation of Pope Nicholas IV. (1288). Pope Nicholas IV., in 1288, granted the tenths to Edward I. for six years, towards the defraying an expedition to the Holy Land, and that they might be collected to their full value, a taxation or valuation by the King's precept was begun 1288, and finished as to the province of Canterbury in 1291, and to that of York in 1292. This taxation, called *Taxatio Ecclesiastica*, regulated the taxes as well to our Kings as to the Popes, until the survey of 26 Henry VIII., called *Valor Ecclesiasticus*." The Irish taxation is also among the Records of the Queen's Remembrancer.

**TAXATION of the Jews, Roll of.** *Chancery*, 19 Edward I.

**TAXES, Writs against Collectors.** *Exchequer Queen's Remembrancer*, 1646-1828.

**TEMPLAR's Rolls.** *Exchequer L. T. R. and Pipe*, Edward II.

**TENTHS, Arrears of.** *Exchequer First Fruits and Tenths*, 1717-1822.

**TENTHS, Entries of Payments of.** *Exchequer First Fruits and Tenths*, 1660-1705, 1717-1838.

**TESTA de Nevill, or Liber Feodorum.** *Exchequer Queen's Remembrancer*, Henry III.—Edward I. These are two volumes, containing *Nomina Villarum*, Serjeanties and Knights' Fees taken by inquisition. Their chief use is to ascertain the principal landholders throughout the kingdom, and the tenures by which they held their estates. *See* "Record Report of 1800," p. 138. Among the former Chapter House records,

there is part of a roll, called *Testa de Nevill*, from which some of the entries of the *Testa de Nevill*, it is supposed, were copied. The *Testa de Nevill* has been printed in one folio volume, by the late Record Commissioners. See "Preface" to the work.

**TITHES.** Matters relating to, entered on the Close Rolls.

**TOURNAMENTS.** Matters relating to, entered on the Close Rolls.

**TOWER Records, Index to State Prisoners.** See "Deputy Keeper's 30th Report," Appendix.

**TRADE.** Matters relating to, entered on the Charter and Patent Rolls.

**TREASURE Trove.** Matters relating to, entered on the Close Rolls.

**TREASURY Exchequer of Receipt.** See "Exchequer of Receipt, Treasury."

**TREATY Rolls.** See French, Roman, Almain, and Scotch Rolls. Matters relating to Treaties are also entered on the Close and Patent Rolls.

**TRIAL, Notices of.** *Queen's Bench*, C. S. 1698-1843.



**VALOR Ecclesiasticus.** *Exchequer First Fruits and Tenths*, Henry VIII. Contains surveys of archbishoprics, bishoprics, abbeys, monasteries, priories, colleges, hospitals, deaneries, archdeaconries, prebends, parsonages, chantries, provostships, &c. "The *Valor Ecclesiasticus*," said the "Quarterly Review," "is a kind of *Domesday of Church property*."

**VARIOUS Accounts, Enrolments of.** *Exchequer L. T. R. and Pipe.*

Series 1. Tax Accounts, Henry VIII.—1821.

Series 2. Do. 11 Edward I.—1821.

Series 3. Do. Various.

VARIOUS (General Accounts). *Exchequer L. T. R. and Pipe.*

Series 1. 1514-1830.

Series 2. 1642-1830.

Series 3. Files and Bundles, 35 Charles II.—1833.

VASCON Rolls. *Chancery*, Henry III.—Edward IV.

VENIRES. *Queen's Bench*, C. S. 1744-1825.

VENIRE facias, &c. Do. 1754-1827. A writ to the sheriff to summon a jury for the trial of a cause; abolished in 1852.

VERDERERS. Matters relating to, entered on the Close Rolls.

VETUS Codex, or Black Book of the Tower. A book of Enrolment, in which are entered Proceedings in Parliament, from 18 Edward I. to 35 Edward I., and those of 14 Edward II. Date unknown, but before 6 Richard II.

VOYAGES, Royal. *Chancery*, 1 Henry IV. Matters relating to such voyages are generally entered on the Close Rolls; but among the records formerly in the Tower is a separate roll of Royal Voyages.



WARDROBE. *Chancery*. Matters relating to the Wardrobe are entered on the Close Rolls. Among the records formerly in the Tower are however the Roll called "*Warderobæ Recepta*," 10 Henry III.; the Rolls of the Great Wardrobe, 10 Edward I. and 17 Edward II.; and various Wardrobe Account Books. Edward I.—See "*Household and Wardrobe Accounts*."

WARDROBE and Household Accounts. *Exchequer L. T. R. and Pipe*. 42 Henry III.—56 George III.

WARDS and Liveries. Records of. The Court of Wards and Liveries was erected by Henry VIII. and abolished by 12 Charles II. Its jurisdiction was to superintend inquiries upon the death of the king's tenants, what lands they died seised of, who was the heir, what was his age, &c. in order to entitle the king to his marriage, wardship, relief, or other advantages.



Among the Records of this Court are:—Account Books and Rolls of Receivers General; Patent Books of Appointments of Feodars and Escheators; Bills, Answers, and Depositions; Certificates of Feodaries; Inquisitions post mortem; Leafes; Books of Liveries; Process Books; Books of Surveys; Sales of Wardships; Fines for Wards' Lands, &c. &c.

WARDS. Matters relating to Wards and Wardships are entered on the Close and Patent Rolls.

WARRANTS of Attorney. *Queen's Bench*, P. S.—1802-1848.

WARRANTS of Attorney and Cognovits. *Exchequer of Pleas*.—1803-1849.

WARRANTS of Attorney to enter satisfaction. *Common Pleas*. 1676-1843.

Do. To confess Judgment. *Common Pleas*. 1802-1849.

WARRANTS of Attorney on signing Judgment. *Common Pleas*. 1731-1838.

WARRANTS to deliver Records. *Augmentations*. 24 Henry VII.—1635.

WARRENS. Matters relating to, entered on the Close Rolls.

WATSON'S Roll. *Chancery*. Elizabeth. "The Roll called Watson's Roll, containing divers grants and other things confusedly and promiscuously laid together, which one Watson (sometime clerk of the Great Seal between the thirty and forty years of Queen Elizabeth) did for six or seven years together keep in his chest, and upon his death they were found and brought into the Chapel of the Rolls."

WEIGHTS and Measures. Matters relating to, are entered on the Close Rolls.

WELSH Records. Among these documents are Plea Rolls, 1259-1830; Forest Rolls, 1270-1502; Rolls of Justices in Eyre, 1306-1500; Indictment Rolls, 1346-1500; Mainprise Rolls, 1298-1564; Docket Rolls, 1540 to George III.; Recognizance Rolls, 1308-1830; Ministers' Accounts, Edward III.—Henry VIII.; Court Rolls, Attorney's Rolls, Calendar Rolls, Estreat Rolls, Fines, Original Pardons, *Quo Warranto* Rolls, &c. (See Appendices to 20th, 21st, 22nd, 24th, 25th,

26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, and 31st "Reports of the Deputy Keeper of Public Records" for lists of Welsh Records and Books.)

WELSH Rolls. *Chancery*. 5-23 Edward I. Matters relating to Wales are also entered on the Close Rolls. Revenue Rolls of the Prince of Wales, 47-49 Edward III. Printed in "2nd Report," Appendix.

WESTMINSTER Abbey. *Treasury of Receipt*. Henry VII. A book covered with velvet and embossed, concerning the foundations of Westminster Chapel by Henry VII. Also several similarly bound books, containing the agreements between Henry VII. and Islip, Abbot of Westminster, concerning masses, &c. and the annual pensions given for them.

WOODS, Accounts of. *Augmentations*. Henry VIII.—James I.

WOOL. Matters relating to, entered on the Close Rolls.

WRIT Books. *Common Pleas*. 1784-1849. See "Appearance Books."

WRIT Books, *Indexes*. *Exchequer of Pleas*. 14 James I.—1842.

WRITS, *Chancery*. For writs relating to *Habeas Corpus*, *Ne exeat regno*, the Royal Household, the Expenses of knights, citizens, and burgesses, Summons to Parliament, and to Dower, see "Close Rolls."

To Sheriffs for restoring lands to those unlawfully dispossessed.

See "Redisseisin Rolls."

To Sheriffs for delivery of Lands which had been extended.

See "Liberate Rolls."

Of Restitution of Temporalities before 1725. See "Patent Rolls." After 1725, see Bishops' Patent Rolls at Petty Bag Office.

WRITS of Covenant. *Common Pleas*. 1 Edward III.—6 William IV.

WRITS of Covenant, Extracts from. *Common Pleas*. *Alienation Office*. 1576-1837. *Index* to ditto, 1661-1835.

WRITS of Error. *Exchequer of Pleas*. 1775-1842.

WRITS filed. *Common Pleas*. 1800-1849.

WRITS, Index Books. (Alphabet Books.) *Queen's Bench*, P. S. 1751-1842.

WRITS and Inquisitions, Posteas, &c. *Exchequer of Pleas*. 1821-1837.

WRITS and Inquisitions. *Exchequer L. T. R. and Pipe*. Elizabeth—George IV.

WRITS, Judicial. *Queen's Bench*, P. S. 1629-1848.

WRITS, Special Original. *Queen's Bench*, P. S.—1629-1844.

WRITS and Miscellaneous Documents. *Exchequer, First Fruits and Tenths*. Henry VIII.—William IV.

WRITS and Miscellaneous Documents. *Common Pleas*. Commonwealth—60 George III.

WRITS and Posteas. *Queen's Remembrancer*. William and Mary—1850.

WRITS of Trial. *Exchequer of Pleas*. 1833-1848.

WRITS of Outlawry. *Queen's Bench*, P. S. 1785-1843.

WRITS of Replevin. *Queen's Bench*, P. S. 1764-1835.

Replevin is a personal action *ex delicto* brought to recover possession of goods unlawfully taken, the validity of which taking it is the regular mode of contesting. The word means a redelivery to the owner of the pledge or thing taken in distress.









## THE STATE PAPERS.

**W**ITHOUT attempting to enter into the question when a secretary of state was first appointed, we may conclude that such an official was in existence at a very early period of our history. From Rymer we learn that John Maunfell, Provost of Beverley and Chancellor of London, was Secretary of State to Henry III. in 1253; that in 1278, Francis Accursij, of Bologna, was Secretary of State to Edward I., and that in 1299, John de Benefede, clerk to the same king, was Secretary of State.<sup>1</sup> Such appointments were anciently made, not by letters patent, but simply by the mere delivery of the king's signet; thus there are no records which set forth the names of those who first filled the office, and hence the antiquary and historian have to rest content with the casual notices afforded by the rolls and other documents. It is doubtful, however, whether, in the earlier ages of our history, more than one Secretary of State was ever appointed to execute the

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<sup>1</sup> Rymer, vol. i. p. 490. Vol. ii. pp. 851 and 118. State Papers, published under the authority of His Majesty's Commission. Vol. i. Preface. 1830.

commands of his sovereign. Mention, it is true, is often made of the king's secretaries; but as each Secretary of State was assisted by two distinct and inferior secretaries for the Latin and French tongues, it is probable that the phrase was only intended for the subordinates and not for the chief. "There is strong reason to believe that there never were at the same time two Secretaries of State, until after the Statute of Precedence, 31 Henry VIII. c. 10, which gives to the king's chief secretary (in the singular number), being of the degree of a Baron of the Parliament, or a bishop, precedence above all other barons and bishops,"<sup>1</sup> excepting certain specified great officers of the state. Shortly after the passing of this statute a second Secretary of State was appointed. The warrant under the King's sign manual is still extant, but bears no date; it must, however, have been issued "before the 14th of April, 1540, on which day mention is made of Sir Ralph Sadleir, as one of the king's two principal secretaries." The appointment of an additional secretary was doubtless due to the overweening ambition of the king's favourite ministers. "Wolsey for the first twenty years of Henry's reign, and Cromwell for the next ten, had so engrossed to themselves all the immediate intercourse with the king, even in those branches of the public service over which a distinct officer presided, as the Lord High Treasurer and the Lord High Admiral, that there was little necessity for any secretary of state. But when Crom-

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<sup>1</sup> State Papers, vol. i. Preface.

well fell under the Royal displeasure, the king probably resolved not to admit another favourite to the same degree of ascendancy, and then saw need for employing two Secretaries of State, one of whom he usually retained near his person, when he was out of London, leaving the other to act with those of the Privy Council who remained in the metropolis.”<sup>1</sup>

Since the days of Sir Ralph Sadler’s appointment there have never been less than two Secretaries of State. In the last month of the reign of Edward VI. a third secretary was appointed—Sir John Cheke, who assisted Sir William Petre and Sir William Cecil. Again, in 1616, Sir John Herbert, Sir Ralph Winwood, and Sir Thomas Lake were all Secretaries of State at the same time. Until the union with Scotland the additional third secretary was an exceptional post; but in the year 1708, Queen Anne, owing to the increase in the public business, thought fit to create such an appointment, especially to take charge of Scotch matters. In 1746 this official was, however, abolished, and it was not till 1768 that he was again appointed—this time for the supervision of colonial matters. In 1782 the third Secretary of State was again abolished, and the charge of the colonies transferred to the Home Secretary; but in 1794, owing to the war with France, he was once more appointed to take charge of the War Department; and in 1801 the colonial business was attached to his department. In 1854 a fourth Secretary of State for the

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<sup>1</sup> State Papers, vol. i. Preface.

exclusive charge of the War Department, and in 1858 a fifth Secretary of State for India were created, so that there are now five principal Secretaries of State, four of whom occupy seats in the House of Commons, whilst the fifth is always a member of the House of Lords. These principal Secretaries have the sole control of the business of their respective offices (subject of course to the general superintendence of the Cabinet), and are the only authorized channels whereby the Royal pleasure is signified to any part of the body politic. Whatever be their number, the Secretaries of State constitute but *one office*, and are co-ordinate in rank and equal in authority; the division of duties being a mere matter of arrangement. The papers in their charge are a most important collection.

“It will be readily conceived how rapidly the mass of correspondence must have accumulated in the office of the Secretary of State after the revival of letters in the sixteenth century; yet no provision was for some time made for its being received into any certain depository. Each succeeding secretary had it in his own custody; the apartments provided for him were extremely confined, and the future destination of his official papers depended in great measure upon accident, upon the care or the negligence of the individual, or his clerks, and, above all, upon the good or evil fate which awaited the secretary when he resigned the seal.”<sup>1</sup> It was not till the year 1578 that the State Paper Office, or, as it was originally

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<sup>1</sup> State Papers, vol. i. Preface.



called, the "Office of Her Majesty's Papers and Records for business of State and Council," became established, with Dr. Thomas Wilson (who was then Master of Requests, and afterwards was one of the secretaries of state) as the first keeper of its papers. But though the office was established, the accommodation afforded for the preservation of its contents was far from ample; indeed, the manner in which the State Papers were at that time treated was very similar to the attention then paid to the Records. In the reign of Elizabeth the documents were kept in chests, but under James the First they were reduced into the form of a library, and after some little difficulty the larder of the Privy Seal was assigned for their reception. Finally the tower over the gateway of Whitehall Palace, consisting of "two rooms, three closets, and three turrets," was fitted up as a State Paper repository. Most fortunately, the fire of 1619, which destroyed much of the palace, did not touch the tower; "but though Wilson boasted that the archives under his care had not on this occasion sustained so much hurt as the loss of a blank paper, Raymond, his successor, complained that they were thrown into great disorder by having been hastily and confusedly cast into blankets, the better to preserve them from the fire." For many a century the State Papers remained in the cold shade of neglect, imperfectly arranged, subject to constant embezzlement and liable to all the evils arising from deficient accommodation; and it was not till 1705 that the House of Lords appointed a committee to inquire into the method of keeping records and public papers in

offices. It was then discovered that since 1670 but few papers had been returned to the office; that even those which had been returned were most imperfect; that the space allotted to the documents was very insufficient; and that the keeping the papers in bundles was inconvenient. Consequently, the committee recommended that the office should be repaired and enlarged, that the papers should be sorted and digested, and that, instead of being kept in bundles, they should be bound up in volumes.<sup>1</sup> Reference was now made to Sir Christopher Wren, and it was determined that the upper floor of the Lord Chamberlain's lodgings should be fitted up and appropriated to the State Paper Office. An apartment 80 feet long and 25 feet wide, known as the Middle Treasury Gallery, was then built and added to the office. Here the papers remained until 1750, when it was thought advisable to pull down the old gateway. The result of this act of demolition was to show that the documents had "greatly suffered from vermin and wet." A new house was now found necessary. The papers in the Middle Treasury Gallery, which was left standing, were not removed, but the contents of the rest of the office were sent to an old house in Scotland Yard, "where they remained and suffered still further injury from wet till 1819," when it became necessary to pull down the house. Again the papers were deposited elsewhere—the elsewhere, I need hardly say, being "another old house" in Great George Street. At last, in 1828, a plan was

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<sup>1</sup> State Papers, vol. i. Preface.

approved and a vote passed for the erection of a new fire-proof building for the reception of the State Papers adjoining St. James' Park, at the north end of Duke Street. The building was completed in 1833 and the State Papers lodged shortly afterwards within its admirably arranged repositories. In 1848 the Select Committee of the House of Commons on the Miscellaneous Expenditure recommended the amalgamation of the State Paper Office with the Public Record Office. Accordingly it was determined by Treasury Minutes, dated Aug., 1848, and June, 1852, that on the retirement of the Keeper of the State Papers, the State Paper Office should become a branch of the Public Record Office, under the superintendence of the Master of the Rolls. On the death of the Right Hon. Henry Hobhouse, the last Keeper, in 1854, the State Papers were transferred to the repository in Fetter Lane, and placed under the Master of the Rolls.

It can easily be imagined that the State Papers, like the Public Records, have suffered serious loss and injury from the neglect with which they were so long treated and from the casualties to which they were exposed. Keeper after Keeper did his best to preserve and arrange the documents in his custody, but each seems to have had to contend with incessant difficulties. According to the oath taken by the "Clerk, Keeper and Registrar of His Majesty's Papers," it was his duty to preserve all the documents intrusted to his charge from harm and damage; "not to suffer any to be purloined, embezzled or defaced, to keep secret such things therein

contained as shall be fit for His Majesty's service, and to do his best to recover such papers as may have been detained or embezzled by private persons." But in spite of the strict clauses of this oath,—what with the refusal of secretaries of state to return their official papers on their resignation of office, the sending out documents to different ambassadors, and the lending books which were never returned, the list of lost, stolen, or strayed from our collection of State Papers is no small one.

During the reign of Henry VIII. many of the king's papers were embezzled by Lords St. Albans and Cherbury, who had the chief charge of such papers. In the reign of Elizabeth most of the private business papers of the queen, especially her letters on matters of secret importance, came into the hands of the Earl of Leicester, and finally into the possession of his secretary and his descendants; and "though they were ultimately recovered, a great part had perished by time and the distraction of the wars, &c.; being left in England during the rebellion, many had been abused to the meanest purposes." In the reign of James I., when Sir Thomas Lake was deprived of his office of Secretary of State, it was found that many papers of moment were wanting. In spite of all the complaints of the Keeper of State Papers, Mr. Secretary Winwood refused to hand over the documents in his possession. Several books of Ireland were sent to Lord Carew, which he failed to return, and the same fate befell certain papers sent to the Earl of Middlesex, Sir Peter Manhood, Sir Robert Naunton, and Sir Robert Cotton. During the Civil



War the king's papers, from the time he was in the north till the surrender of Oxford, were designedly burnt. Whilst "a fair cabinet of the king's, full of papers of a very secret nature, which had been left by the king upon his retirement to the Scots, amongst which were thought to be all the queen's letters to the king, and 'things of very mysterious nature,' " were also destroyed. During the Commonwealth, Bradshaw, in his capacity as President of the Council of State, managed to obtain possession of "divers books, treaties, papers and records of state," some of which, in spite of all the efforts of Charles II. were not regained. John Tucker, who was ordered to report upon the keeping of records and public papers in offices, says that between 1640 and 1660, many papers are wanting to complete the series of foreign papers. Fortunately, the valuable collection of books of the Council of State during the Interregnum, which had been stolen, were recovered. At the Restoration "all the papers of State during the time of the Usurpation, remained in Thurloe's hand, and Sir Samuel Morland advised a great minister to have them seized, being then privately buried in four great deal chests; but, 'for reasons left to be judged,' that minister delayed to order it, and Thurloe had time to burn them 'that would have hanged a great many,' and 'he certainly did burn them, except some principal ones culled out by himself.'" During the reign of Charles II. various papers were sent out of the country to the Hague and Sweden, for the convenience of the ambassadors, and many were not returned. The last warrant for the

seizure of stolen documents from the State Paper Office was in 1755, when it was discovered that one Nathan Carrington, a king's messenger, had made himself master of "22 bags of ancient writings and records belonging to his majesty, concealed in the house of the late John Anstis, garter king-at-arms at Mortlake in Surrey." But even up to almost a recent date there are instances of documents having been sent out of the State Paper Office and never having been seen again. In 1762, Lord Egremont had a packet of foreign papers, of the years 1757-1761, sent to his house, which was not returned. In 1766 some volumes were sent to General Conway, and met with the same fate. Some time before 1788 numerous books and papers were forwarded to Lord Sydney and the Marquis of Carmarthen, and never returned. Of the large number of papers relative to the mines which were wrought by Queen Elizabeth, and which were sent to Lord Shelburne in 1768, but few have been returned. These papers relate to Frobisher's three several voyages in search of a north-west passage, and when a calendar of them was prepared in 1862, it was discovered that many were missing.<sup>1</sup> Indeed, so carelessly did ministers watch their documents, that a treaty, concluded with Holland in 1654, was bought at an auction, and the original treaty with Portugal in the same year from a stall in the street. Happily, both these papers were restored to the office. Thanks to the zeal and assiduity of Sir

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<sup>1</sup> See Mr. Noel Sainsbury's able sketch of the State Paper Office. Dep. Keeper's 30th Report, Appendix.

Robert Cotton, in the reign of James I., and Sir Joseph Williamson in the reign of Charles II., many of the scattered papers have been found. The collections of Sir Robert Cotton now form a part of the Library of the British Museum, whilst those of Sir Joseph Williamson were placed in the State Paper Office.

The State Papers having always been looked upon as the library of the Secretaries of State, their contents were regarded as strictly private and confidential. The keeper was bound by oath "to let no man see anything in the office of His Majesty's papers without a warrant from the king" excepting always "what is wanted by the Secretaries of State, Privy Councillors, and other officers of His Majesty's Government; in all matters required by ambassadors he is to receive a warrant from the Lord Chamberlain; in all things where secrecy is necessary he must have the King's warrant." The keeper was also "tied by a strict oath and by His Majesty's commands to deliver nothing out of the office unless to the lords and others of His Majesty's Council." During the whole history of the State Paper Office the keeper never had power to grant on his own authority permission to consult the State Papers—such permission could only be accorded by the Secretary of State to whose office the papers belonged. This rule is still in force for the examination of papers after a certain date.

In former times, so jealously was this "library of MSS." guarded that it was impossible for any but the most favoured to have access to the State Papers. Among those who had permission to search the paper

we find that in 1670 Evelyn was lent several volumes of documents which related to Holland, and that in the same year certain officers of the East India Company were allowed to consult certain books and journals relating to the trade with China, Japan, and India. In 1679 Dr. Gilbert Burnet was permitted by warrant "from time to time to have the sight and use of such papers and books as he shall think may give him information and help in finishing his History of the Reformation of the Church of England;" and in the same year Prince Rupert made a personal request to the king in favour of Roger Le Strange who was writing a history of the civil wars of England, and desired to search the Paper Office. The request was granted. In the reign of Queen Anne, Collier was permitted to examine papers for his "*English Ecclesiastical History*;" Strype at a later period, Chalmers, Bruce, and many other writers of note were also allowed to consult the State Papers by special permission. As an instance of the strictness with which the State Papers were guarded we read that as late as 1775 Lord North, then prime minister, begged "the King's approval to have free access to all correspondence in the Paper Office;" and in 1780 it was necessary for the Ordnance Office to have the Secretary of State's permission "to search the Paper Office for any documents that regard their department."<sup>1</sup> Thanks to the consideration of Lord Romilly all such restrictions have been

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<sup>1</sup> Appendix to 30th Report. Mr. Sainsbury's sketch of the State Paper Office.



removed, and there is now no more difficulty in obtaining access to the State Papers than there is in consulting the books in the reading-room of the British Museum. For this graceful piece of liberalism the literary world owes a debt of gratitude to the Master of the Rolls, which it is not likely ever to forget.

As with the Public Records, so with the State Papers, the great difficulties of arrangement have at last been happily conquered. All the papers are now placed in chronological order, and arranged under the different headings of Domestic, Foreign, Colonial, and Ireland, whilst indexes and catalogues have been made to facilitate inspection. Under the former keepers of the State Paper Office the arranging and indexing of the documents in their care was much neglected. "In the year 1764 Sir Joseph Ayloffe, Dr. Andrew Coltée Ducarel, and Thomas Astle, Esq., all antiquaries of considerable note, presented to Mr. George Grenville (then one of the Secretaries of State) a memorial representing the bad condition of the State Papers, and the want of indexes and calendars, and proposing to undertake the principal labour of methodizing, regulating, digesting, arranging, and binding them, and of making proper catalogues, calendars, and indexes. Sir J. Ayloffe, Dr. Ducarel, and Mr. Astle received a commission from the Crown accordingly which continued in force till 1800. . . . But though this Commission was thus in existence for thirty-six years, it cannot be asserted that there remain any great traces of the constancy of their labours, nor denied that their

arrangements were very superficially and incorrectly performed.”<sup>1</sup> Again the public has to express its thanks to Lord Romilly, for it was not until the incorporation of the State Paper Office with the Public Record Office that the present excellent system of issuing printed Calendars and Indexes was adopted. Of these Calendars some seventy have already appeared.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> State Papers published under the authority of His Majesty's Commission, vol. i. Preface. 1830.

<sup>2</sup> They can be obtained from the following publishers:—Messrs. Longmans, Trübner, James Parker, Macmillan, A. and C. Black and Thom. The price of each volume is 15s.





## PAPERS BELONGING TO PUBLIC DEPARTMENTS.

HE custody of the public records is not confined to the ancient and modern rolls of our courts of law, and to ancient despatches, but also extends to the more recent papers of our offices of State. Hardly a day passes but that important documents either from the Treasury, the Foreign Office, or other Departments are lodged for preservation and arrangement within the iron cages of the Fetter Lane repository.

### *Admiralty.*<sup>1</sup>

Among the papers belonging to this department are :  
—Admiralty Order Books, Bill Books, Account Books, Victualling Books, Certificate Books, Coasting Books, Transport Books, Half-Pay Books, Log Books, Letter Books, Memoranda Books, Minute Books, Muster Books, Order Books, Pay Books, Pen-

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<sup>1</sup> Documents belonging to the Secretary's Department open to the public to 1800. Documents belonging to the Accountant-General's Department not open at all.

sions Books, Salary Books, Admiralty and Navy Lists, Household Account of Hospitals, Bills of various classes, Certificates of Captains and other officers, Dockyards Accounts, Various Ledgers, Lists of Vessels in the Navy which have been lost, taken, or converted to other uses, Lists of Vessels added to the Navy since 1688, Lists of Prisoners of War, &c. &c. &c. Papers belonging to the Admiralty Registry are not open at all to the public without reference being made to the head of the department.

*Audit Office.*<sup>1</sup>

Among the papers belonging to this department are:—Annuities and Dividend Books, Paymaster's Books, Chelsea Hospital Accounts, Accounts of Commissaries, Governors, &c., Compensation Books, Custom Accounts, Controller of Army Accounts, Military Establishment Books, First Fruits and Tenths Books, Mint Solicitors' Accounts, Ordnance Accounts, Post Office Accounts, Stamp Accounts, Stationery Office Accounts, Wardrobe Accounts, Board of Works Accounts, &c. &c. &c.

*Home Office.*<sup>2</sup>

Among the papers belonging to this department are:—Composition Papers (Commonwealth); Letters and Papers relating to domestic affairs from 1509—1830; Ecclesiastical Papers, Council Registers, Musters,

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<sup>1</sup> Documents belonging to this Office partially open to 1760.

<sup>2</sup> Documents belonging to this Office open to 1760.



Sign Manuals, Grants, Councils of War, Lifts of Justices, Petitions, Draft Order Books, Parliamentary Orders, Militia Commissions, Bills of Mortality, Proclamations, Warrants, Secretary's Letter Books, History of State Paper Office, Letters and Papers relating to Ireland and Scotland, &c. &c. &c.

*Foreign Office.*<sup>1</sup>

These documents consist of letters and papers relating to Algiers, Denmark, Flanders, France, Germany, German States, Genoa, Holland, Italian States, Malta, Hamburgh, Poland, Portugal, Prussia, Russia, Savoy, Sardinia, Scotland, Sicily and Naples, Tuscany, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and Venice. These papers begin in 1509, and in many instances continue in an unbroken succession to 1810. Among the Foreign Office documents is also the valuable collection of Treaty Papers.

*Colonial Office.*<sup>2</sup>

The documents of the Colonial Office, as one may easily suppose, consist of letters and papers relating to our various Colonies. They run from Elizabeth to 1849.

*Treasury.*<sup>3</sup>

Among the papers belonging to this department are:—Various Warrants and Books of Accounts; Revenue Books, Fee Books, Pensions and Annuities,

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<sup>1</sup> Documents belonging to this Office open to 1760.

<sup>2</sup> Documents belonging to this Office open to 1760, except the North American Correspondence, which is only open to 1702.

<sup>3</sup> Documents belonging to this Office open to 1820.

American Books, Balancing Books, Civil List Disposition Books, Consolidated Fund Books, Crown Lease Books, Docquet Books, Commissariat Accounts, Council Books, Military Establishment Books, Money Books, Books relating to Customs and Excise, Bengal Papers, Treasury Board Papers, Irish Books, Warrant Books, Letter Books, Prize Money Lists, Lord Chamberlain's Books, Mint Books, Minute Books, Order Books, Patent Books, Various Registers of Papers, Police Accounts, Disposition Books, Tax Books, Wood Books, African Company's Papers, Slave Compensation Papers, and numerous other volumes and papers connected with the working of the department.<sup>1</sup>

*War Office.*<sup>2</sup>

Among the papers belonging to this department are:—Agents' and Paymasters' Accounts, Adjutant Rolls, Baggage Orders, Canadian Accounts, Casualty Returns, Commissariat Letters, Defaulter Papers, Effects Papers, Estimates, Discharges, Pay Lists, Hospital Accounts, Non-effective Accounts, Marching Orders, Militia Accounts, Monthly Returns of Corps for home and foreign stations, Old Series Papers, Military Prisons Accounts, Service Records, Volunteer Corps Papers, Smart Returns, &c. &c. &c.

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<sup>1</sup> For a Chronological List of Lords High Treasurers and Chief Commissioners of the Treasury from the accession of Hen. VII. see Appendix, 25th Report of Deputy Keeper of Public Records.

<sup>2</sup> Documents belonging to this Office open to 1820.



## A BRIEF GLOSSARY OF WORDS TO BE FOUND IN THE PUBLIC RECORDS.

**I**N the framing of this Glossary I have been indebted to the works of Blount, Bracton, Coke upon Littleton, Cowel, Du Cange, Du Fresne, Fleta, Kelham, Spelman, and Thorpe,—a considerable portion of whose definitions are to be found in Wharton's excellent Law Dictionary. I have also consulted *Termes de la Ley*, and the dictionaries of Jacob, Tomlin, Bosworth, Cotgrave, Littleton, and Ainsworth. For several of my definitions I am under obligations to the glossary of mediæval Latin by Mr. H. T. Riley, attached to the second volume of his "*Munimenta Gildhallæ Londoniensis*;" to the glossary of Professor Stubbs at the end of his work, "*Documents Illustrative of English History*;" and to the glossary of Mr. Thomas Wright at the end of the second volume of his "*Political Poems and Songs relating to English History*." For a most valuable glossary of obsolete English words the reader is referred to the last-named work.

*Abacinare*, a punishment described by historians of the Middle Ages.

The criminal was blinded by the means of red-hot irons held before his eyes.

*Abacot*, the royal cap of state formerly worn by the sovereigns of England.

*Abactor*, a stealer and driver-away of cattle by herds or in great numbers at once.

*Abannition*, a banishment of one or two years for manslaughter.

*Abarnare*, to lay bare, discover, detect.

*Abarslick*, infatiable.

*Abatuda*, anything diminished. *Moneta abatuda* is money clipped or diminished in value.

*Abavus*, a great-grandfather's-father.

*Abavia*, a great-grandfather's-mother.

*Abbatis*, an avener or steward of the stables; an ostler.

*Abbrocator*, a broker.

*Abbroch*, to monopolize goods or forestall a market.

*Abditorium*, a hiding-place to conceal goods, or a chest in which reliques are kept.

*Abeched*, to be satisfied.

*Aberemurder*, downright murder as distinguished from manslaughter.

*Abigeat*, the crime of stealing cattle by droves or herds; a mis-carriage procured by art.

*Abladum*, cut corn.

*Abnepos*, a nephew's nephew.

*Absoniare*, to shun or avoid, used by the English in the oath of fealty.

*Acatum*, a purchase.

*Accapitare*, to pay relief to lords of manors.

*Accerfire*, to summon.

*Accidia*, sloth, melancholy.

*Accipitrarius*, the keeper of the hawks.

*Accola*, a husbandman who comes from some other country to till the land; the opposite of *incola*.

*Accredulitare*, to purge an offence by an oath.

*Achat*, a purchase or bargain.

*Acherfet*, a measure of corn supposed to have been eight bushels.

*Achwre*, an enclosure of wattles or thorns surrounding a building to prevent cattle damaging the thatch.

*Aclea*, a field where oaks grow.

*Acquietare*, to acquit, absolve; *quietum reddere*.

*Acroisa*, or *Acrucia*, blindness.

*Acroma*, a concert of music, for *acroama*.

*Acilia*, military utensils.

*Aclo*, a coat of mail.

*Aclus*, a footway and horseway.

*Adaquare*, to drown.

*Adcordabilis denarii*, money paid by a vassal to his lord upon the selling or exchanging of a feud.



*Addition*, the title or mystery and place of abode of a person besides his names.

*Adeling*, *Ætheling*, or *Edling*, a title of honour among the English, properly belonging to the king's children (*ædelan*, Sax.).

*Adiratus*, a price set upon things lost or stolen as a recompense to the owner.

*Admerciare*, to punish by a pecuniary mulct.

*Adnichiled*, annulled, cancelled, made void.

*Adquieto*, payment.

*Adrectare*, to satisfy or make amends.

*Adulterinus*, unlawful; applied to castles erected without royal license.

*Adunare*, to unite.

*Advocare*, to avouch, to vouch to warranty, to recognize as superior lord, and hence to hold an estate as a fief from such a lord.

*Æfesn*, remuneration to the proprietor of a domain for the privilege of feeding swine under the oaks and beeches of his woods.

*Pasnagium* or *Pannagium* in Latin.

*Ægylde*, *Agyld* or *Orgylde*, uncompensated, unpaid for, unavenged.

*Æblyp*, transgression of the law.

*Æbte-swan*, a swineherd.

*Ælmfeob*, Peter's pence paid to the Pope.

*Ætheling*, see *Adeling*.

*Ætblyp*, escape, assault.

*Aerea*, an eyrie.

*Affeerors*, persons who in courts leet settle and moderate the fines and amercements imposed on offences that are arbitrarily punishable.

*Affidatus*, a tenant by fealty, a retainer.

*Affinage*, refining metal; hence fine and refine.

*Afforare*, to set a price on a thing.

*Afforciament*, a fortress or other fortification.

*Afforciare*, to add, increase, or make stronger.

*Afforestare*, to turn ground into a forest.

*Affri*, bullocks, horses, or beasts of the plough.

*Affugere*, to fly from.

*Affuramentum*, asseverment.

*Agalma*, an impression or image of anything on a seal.

*Agenfrida*, the true lord or owner of anything.

*Agenbina*, a guest at an inn, who having stayed there three nights, was then looked upon as one of the family.

*Agild*, free from penalties.

*Agiler*, an observer, informer.

*Agillarius*, a keeper of cattle in a common field solemnly sworn at the lord's court.

*Agist*, to feed strangers' cattle in the royal forest and to collect the money due for it.

*Agistamentum*, right of turning cattle into the woods at special seasons of the year.

*Agius*, holy.

*Agnatio*, kindred by the father.

*Agusadura*, a fee due from vassals to their lord for sharpening, ploughing tackle.

*Agweddi*, a portion given with a bride.

*Aillt*, a villain.

*Alanerarius*, a keeper of dogs for the sport of hawking, a falconer.

*Alanius*, an exactor.

*Album*, white rent paid in silver.

*Alfet*, the cauldron full of boiling water into which the criminal held his arm for a time as an ordeal.

*Allaunds*, hare hounds.

*Allegiare*, to defend or justify by due course of law.

*Alleviare*, to pay an accustomed fine.

*Allocare*, to allow. *Allocatio*, an award.

*Allodarii*, tenants having as great an estate as subjects can enjoy.

*Almaria*, the archives of a church or library.

*Almodarii*, lords of free manors.

*Almoin*, a tenure of lands by Divine service.

*Almonarium*, a safe in which broken victuals were stored for distribution among the poor.

*Alnage* or *Aulnage*, a measure, particularly the measuring with an ell.

*Alnetum*, a grove of alder trees.

*Alodial*, or *Allodial*, or *Allodium*, a holding of lands in absolute possession without acknowledging any superior lord; distinguished from *feudal* lands which are held of superiors.

*Alody*, inheritable land.

*Ambactus*, a servant or client.

*Amber* or *Ambra*, a measure of four bushels.

*Amerciamentum*, a pecuniary mulct; a *fine* can only be imposed by courts of record, an *amercement* by courts not of record.

*Amita*, an aunt by the father.

*Ammobragium*, a service, or poll money, like chevage.

*Amodo*, from henceforth.

*Amortize*, to alienate lands in mortmain, which cannot be done without licence from the Crown.

*Anca*, a goose.

*Ancillare*, to bring into subjection.

*Andaga* or *Andæg*, a day or term appointed for the hearing of a cause.

*Anfeldtybde*, a simple accusation.

*Angylde*, the rate fixed by law at which certain injuries to person or property were to be paid for; in injuries to the person it seems to be equivalent to the *wer*, or the price at which every man was valued.

*Anblote*, a single tax paid according to the custom of the country, as *scot* and *lot*.

*Appensura*, payment of money at the scale or by weight.

*Appretiare*, to appraise or value.

*Appruare*, to take to one's use or profit.

*Aquagium*, a toll paid for water carriage.

*Arabant*, applied to those who held by the tenure of ploughing and tilling the lord's lands within the manor.

*Arcus fellæ*, a fiddle bow.

*Arentare*, to let out at a certain rent.

*Areftare*, to arrest; also *arrestare*.

*Armiger*, an esquire; a title of dignity belonging to gentlemen who bear arms.

*Arnalia*, arable grounds.

*Arpen* or *Arpent*, an acre or furlong of ground; according to Domesday, 100 perches made an arpent.

*Arraire*, to array, to keep in order.

*Arrenatus*, arraigned, accused.

*Arrura*, a day's work at plough.

*Ascriptitius*, bound to the soil: applied to the condition of a *villanus*.

*Aſſaia panis*, assay of bread; *aſſaiator*, an examiner.

*Aßartum*, a clearing in a wood.

*Aßewiare*, to draw or drain water from marsh grounds.

*Aßidere*, to aßeß.

*Aßurcarius*, keeper of the great hawks.

*Atenere*, to extend, to hold from such a time onwards.

*Athe*, *atha*, or *ath*, an oath.

*Atilia*, utenßils or country implements.

*Attachiare*, to feize perßons or goods by legal proceß.

*Atterminare*, to appoint a term for hearing.

*Attornare*, to appoint a substitute.

*Avenage*, a certain quantity of oats paid by a tenant to his landlord as a rent or in lieu of ſome other duties.

*Avera*, a day's work of a ploughman.

*Averia*, cattle ; alßo chattels generally.

*Averium*, the beß live beaß due to the lord as an heriot on his tenant's death.

*Averus*, a farm horße.

*Avia*, a grandmother.

*Avißamentum*, due confideration.

*Baca*, an iron hook, a line with a hook at the end of it.

*Bacheloria*, gentry beneath the rank of barons.

*Baco*, a bacon hog ; ußed in old charters.

*Baga*, a ring or jewel.

*Bagavel*. Edward I. granted to the citizens of Exeter, by charter, the collection of a certain tribute or toll upon all manner of wares brought to that city to be fold, to be applied towards the paving of the ßreets, repairing the walls, and maintaining the city, which was commonly called in old Englißh, *begavel*, *bethu-gavel*, and *chipping-gavel*.

*Babadum*, a cheßt or coffer.

*Bajardour*, a bearer of any weight or burden.

*Balearis*, an arbaleßt.

*Balißtarius*, an arbaleßter or croß Bowman.

*Ballium*, charge.

*Balliva*, a bailiwick or juřißdiction.

*Bancum*, a bench.

*Bannitus*, an outlaw, a banißhed man.

*Barbicanage*, money given towards the maintenance of a barbican.



*Barcarium*, a sheepcote, a sheepwalk.

*Barillus*, a barrel.

*Baro*, a tenant in chief holding by barony, properly a vassal.

*Baronagium*, the collected barons as an estate of the realm.

*Barridus*, proud, powerful.

*Barton*, *Berton*, or *Burton*, demesne lands of a manor, a great farm, a courtyard.

*Baselard*, a weapon, a poignard.

*Bedellus*, a beadle.

*Benerth*, an ancient service which a tenant rendered to his lord with plough and cart.

*Berbiage*, a rent paid for the depasturing of sheep.

*Bercheria*, a sheepfold.

*Bernarius*, bear-ward, the keeper of the king's bears.

*Bifia*, a hind or doe.

*Bi-scot*, a fine of 2s. for not repairing banks, ditches and causeways.

*Bladarius*, a corn-chandler.

*Bladum*, corn.

*Blancus*, white. *Blanci*, white money or sterling.

*Blod-wit*, an amercement for bloodshed.

*Boc*, a charter. *Boc-land*, land held by charter.

*Bolbagium*, a little house or cottage.

*Bordarii* or *Bordimanni*, boors, husbandmen, cottagers.

*Bord-brigch*, violation of suretyship.

*Bordlands*, demesnes which a lord keeps on his own lands for the maintenance of his board or table.

*Bordlode* or *Bordage*, a service required of tenants to carry timber out of the lord's woods to his house.

*Borelfolk*, country people.

*Borb*, a surety, a pledge.

*Bofcage*, food which wood and trees yield to cattle.

*Bofcaria*, woodhouses or oxhouses.

*Bot*, amends, reparation.

*Bothagium*, dues paid to the lord of the manor for the erection of booths in fairs or markets.

*Bovaria*, a cowhouse.

*Bovata Terræ*, as much land as an ox can plough; 8 *bovatæ* make 1 carucate.

*Bracenarius*, a huntsman or master of the hounds. *Bracetus*, a hound

- Braciator*, a brewer. *Brecina*, a brewhouse.  
*Bredwite*, a fine imposed for defaults in the assize of bread.  
*Breve*, a writ.  
*Brigbote*, contribution for the repairs of bridges, walls and castles.  
*Brocella*, a wood, a covert of brushwood. *Bruscia*, a wood.  
*Brucus*, a kind of locust.  
*Brueria*, thorns, briars, heath.  
*Bunda*, a boundary.  
*Burdare*, to joust.  
*Burgagium*, tenure of land or houses in a borough, equivalent to free and common socage in the country.  
*Burgator*, a burglar.  
*Burgh*, a fortress, castle, borough.  
*Burgherishbe*, a breach of the peace in a city.  
*Burgmote*, a court of a borough.  
*Burrocbium*, a small weir where traps are laid for the taking of fish.  
*Busca*, brush or underwood.  
*Busellus*, a bushel.  
*Butellarius*, a butler.
- Cablisb*, brushwood; or, according to Spelman, windfall-wood.  
*Cacepolus*, an inferior bailiff.  
*Cæmentarius*, a stonemason.  
*Calangium*, a challenge, claim, or dispute.  
*Calcea*, chalk.  
*Calculus*, a counter.  
*Calefagium*, a right to take fuel yearly.  
*Calumniare*, to claim without deceit.  
*Cambiare*, to exchange.  
*Camerarius*, a chamberlain, keeper of accounts.  
*Campertum*, a corn-field.  
*Can*, clearance, averment.  
*Cancellare*, to cancel, to erase by cross-lining.  
*Candelarius*, a maker of candles.  
*Canfara*, a trial by hot iron.  
*Capella*, a chapel, furniture required by a priest for divine service.  
*Capita*, abuttals or boundaries.  
*Capitale vivens*, live cattle.  
*Capitilium*, poll money.

*Capito*, a fish, the gurnard.

*Capo*, a capon.

*Carcannum*, a prison.

*Carecta* and *Carectata*, a cart and cart-load.

*Cariare*, to carry. *Cariagium*, carriage.

*Caristia*, dearth, scarcity, dearth.

*Cark*, a quantity of wool; 30 equal a farplar.

*Caruca*, a plough. *Carucagium*, a tax imposed on every plough for the public service.

*Carucatarius*, one who held lands in plough tenure.

*Carucate*, a plough land of 100 acres; or, according to Skene, as much land as may be tilled in a year and a day by one plough.

*Casare*, to quash.

*Catallum*, a chattel.

*Catafropus*, an archdeacon.

*Ceap*, a bargain, anything for sale; also cattle as being the usual medium of barter. *Ceap-gild*, market price.

*Cenegild*, an expiatory mulct paid by one who killed another to the kindred of the deceased.

*Cenellæ*, acorns from the oak.

*Censarii*, farmers.

*Centena*, a hundred; *centenarius*, the head man of the hundred.

*Ceorl*, a churl; originally a freeman who is not noble, in opposition to *eorl*; at a later period the name stood for *villanus*.

*Cerarius*, a maker of wax tapers.

*Cervisarii*, a duty called by the English *drinclean*, i. e. *retributio potus*, paid by tenants. *Cervisia*, beer.

*Certiorare*, to make certain.

*Cerura*, a mound, fence, or inclosure.

*Cervicatus*, proud, overbearing.

*Chace*, a station of game more extended than a park, and less than a forest; also the liberty of hunting within a certain district; also a driveway.

*Chaceare*, to chase.

*Chevagium*, a kind of poll money paid by such as held land in villenage to their lords.

*Childwite*, a fine of a bondwoman unlawfully begotten with child.

*Chiminagium*, toll due by custom for having a way through a forest.

*Chiminum*, a road.

*Circada*, a tribute anciently paid to the bishop or archbishop for visiting churches.

*Ciric-fceat*, church scot; an ecclesiastical due payable on the day of St. Martin, consisting chiefly of corn.

*Cirothecarius*, a glover.

*Ciſſor*, a tailor, a shearman.

*Claia*, a hurdle.

*Clamare*, to claim, to complain.

*Clawa*, a clofe or ſmall meaſure of land.

*Clepere*, to ſteal.

*Clough*, a valley.

*Coadunare*, to get together, to get the harveſt in.

*Cockſetus*, a cockſwain.

*Cognatio*, kindred by the mother.

*Colliſtrigium*, the pillory.

*Comes*, a geſith or companion of a lord, generally an earl.

*Comitatus*, a county, the county court.

*Comitia*, a legal aſſembly, ſuch as the county court.

*Commeare*, to come backwards and forwards at pleaſure; the oppoſite to *reſidere*.

*Commorth*, a contribution collected at marriages, or when young prieſts ſaid the firſt maſſes.

*Concelamentum*, concealment.

*Concubaria*, a fold where cattle lie.

*Conludium*, colluſion.

*Conſiderare*, to give judgment, to award.

*Conſobrinius*, a ſiſter's ſon or couſin german by the mother.

*Contenementum*, the amount of property neceſſary for a man to maintain his poſition as knight or baron.

*Continuare*, to continue, to adjourn.

*Convenire*, to make application to a judge; to be agreed; to conſult; to come together.

*Conventio*, a covenant.

*Coopertus*, capariſoned.

*Cordarius*, a rope-maker.

*Cornagium*, a kind of tenure in grand ſerjeanty, the ſervice of which was to blow a horn when any invaſion of the Scots was perceived. This old ſervice was afterwards paid in money, and accounted for by the ſheriffs under the title of *cornagium*.



*Cornare*, to blow the horn.

*Coronare filium*, to make one's son a priest.

*Cortis*, a court or yard before a house.

*Cofcinum*, a measure of corn.

*Coſta*, the coast.

*Cotellus* or *Coteria*, a small cottage or homestall.

*Coterellus*, a servile tenant who held in mere villenage.

*Cotland* and *Cotſethland*, land held by a cottager, whether in socage or villenage.

*Counare*, to collect, to amass.

*Couthutlagh*, one who willingly concealed an outlaw.

*Covinous*, fraudulent.

*Cravare*, to impeach.

*Crementum*, increase or profit of a farm over and above the fixed sum at which it is let.

*Crociarius*, the cross-bearer who went before the prelate. *Crocus*, a crook or hook.

*Cruciatus*, a crusader.

*Cultura*, a parcel of arable land.

*Culvertage*, base slavery; the confiscation of an estate.

*Cuneus*, a place to coin money.

*Curialis*, courteous.

*Curtilagium*, a court-yard or piece of ground lying near and belonging to a dwelling-house.

*Cuſtuma*, custom in the sense of tax.

*Cuſtus*, cost.

*Cyne-bot* or *Cyne-gild*, the portion belonging to the nation of the mulct for killing the king, the other portion, or *wer*, being due to his family.

*Cyning*, a king; a son or child of the people; manifestly a patronymic, like *Uffing*, son of *Uffa*, &c.

*Cyrce*, a church.

*Dalus*, *Dailus*, *Dailia*, a certain measure of land.

*Danegelt*, a tribute of 1s., and afterwards of 2s., upon every hide of land throughout the kingdom, for maintaining a sufficient force to resist the Danish pirates who annoyed our coasts.

*Dangeria*, money payment made by forest tenants that they might have liberty to plough and sow in time of pannage or mast feeding.

- Dapifer*, a steward either of a king or lord.  
*Darrein*, the last ; corruption of *dernier*.  
*Dayeria*, a dairy.  
*Deadvocare*, to disclaim.  
*Deafforestare*, to disforest.  
*Dealbare*, to whiten. *Dealbator*, a bleacher.  
*Decania*, a tithing.  
*Decanus*, a dean ; the head man of a tithing.  
*Decurtator*, a clipper of coin.  
*Dezbana*, an actual homicide or manslaughter.  
*Defensiva*, a lord or earl of the marches who was the warden and defender of his country.  
*Defortiare*, to dispossess by violence.  
*Demefne*, that part of the lands of a manor which the lord has not granted out on tenancy, but which is reserved for his own use and occupation.  
*Demi-vill*, a town consisting of five free men or frank-pledges.  
*Denarius*, a penny.  
*Denbara*, a pen for hogs.  
*Dentes*, a grating.  
*Deodandum*, a deodand, or gift to God.  
*Detachiare*, to seize another person's goods, &c., by attachment or other process of law.  
*Detallia*, retail.  
*Detonfor*, a clipper of the coin.  
*Detunicare*, to lay open to the world.  
*Dextrarius*, a war-horse.  
*Diarium*, as much food as will suffice for the day.  
*Diaſperatus*, stained with many colours.  
*Diffacere*, to destroy.  
*Diffidare*, to defy.  
*Dilligrout*, pottage formerly made for the king's table on coronation day.  
*Disboſcatio*, a turning wood ground into arable or pasture.  
*Disſcicare*, to unlade a ſhip.  
*Diſſacere*, to annul.  
*Diſme*, a tenth ; the tenth of all ſpiritual livings.  
*Diſpenſarius*, a ſteward.  
*Diſperſonare*, to diſparage.

- Dispositio*, a division.  
*Disrationare*, to justify, to disprove.  
*Disſaiſiare*, to diſpoſſeſs.  
*Diſſignare*, to break open a ſeal.  
*Diſtrictio*, a diſtreſs, a diſtraint.  
*Diſtringere*, to diſtrain, to compel by ſeizure of goods.  
*Diviſa*, a deviſe by will, a boundary; alſo a court held on the boundary to ſettle diſputes of tenants.  
*Dolg-bote*, a recompenſe for a wound.  
*Dolium*, a tun of liquor.  
*Dome* or *Doom*, a judgment, ſentence, or decree.  
*Domeſmen*, judges appointed to determine ſuits.  
*Domicellus*, a better ſort of ſervant in monaſteries; alſo an appellation of a king's baſtard. *Domicella*, a damſel.  
*Dominicum*, demeſne.  
*Dowl*, a diviſion.  
*Dru*, a thicket or wood.  
*Dry-cræft*, magic, witchcraft.  
*Dunſets*, people that dwell on hilly places.  
*Dunum* or *Duna*, a down or hill.
- Ealder* or *Ealding*, an elder or chief.  
*Ealdorman*, the chief magiſtrate of a ſhire.  
*Ealhorda*, the privilege of aſſizing and ſelling beer.  
*Edeſtia*, buildings.  
*Eſters*, ways, walks, or hedges.  
*Eineſcia*, ſeniority.  
*Eleemoſynæ*, poſſeſſions belonging to the Church.  
*Eleemoſynarius*, an almoner.  
*Elongare*, to diſpoſe of, to remove to a diſtance.  
*Eluviones*, ſewers.  
*Emblers de gentz*, a ſtealing from the people.  
*Emenda*, amends.  
*Emendals*, money in reſerve for reparation of loſſes or other emergent occaſions.  
*Emendare*, to make amends for any crime or offence committed.  
*Emendatio*, reparation, amends, a fine.  
*Enbrever*, to write down in ſhort.  
*Encheaſon*, cauſe, occaſion.

*Eorlas*, noblemen, opposed to *ceorlas*.

*Equitatura*, the furniture of a horse or horse foldier.

*Errare*, to go on the eyre or itinerate.

*Esbrancatura*, cutting off branches in forests.

*Escambium*, or *Excambium*, an exchange.

*Escapium*, that which comes by chance or accident.

*Eschaeta*, *Escaeta*, *Excaeta*, the reversion of a fief to the lord on the extinction or corruption of the blood; also the estate so escheated. *Escaetor* was the officer who received the escheats of the Crown.

*Escheccum*, a jury or inquisition.

*Escot*, a tax formerly paid in boroughs towards the support of the community, which is called *scot* and *lot*.

*Escuage*, a pecuniary instead of a military service; this kind of feudal tenure was called *scutagium* or *servitium scuti*, *scutum* being then a well-known denomination for money.

*Efsnecca*, a ship of transport.

*Efsperverius*, a sparrowhawk.

*Efsaium* or *Efsayum*, trial, examination by fire.

*Efsartum*, woodlands turned into tillage by uprooting the trees and removing the underwood. See *Afsartum*.

*Efsonium*, an excuse.

*Efstoverium*, fire-wood; originally stuff generally.

*Ewage*, toll paid for water passage. See *Aquagium*.

*Ewbrice*, adultery.

*Excidentia*, escheats.

*Exfrediare*, to break the peace.

*Exitus*, outgoings, issue.

*Expeditatio*, the cutting out the ball of a dog's forefeet so as to prevent him being used in hunting.

*Expeditio*, the duty of military service incumbent on all allodial owners.

*Exfartum*, land redeemed from the forest and made arable.

*Extocare*, to grub up lands and reduce them to arable or meadow.

*Extracta*, an estate.

*Extraneus*, a foreigner, a stranger.

*Exuperare*, to overcome, to apprehend.

*Factum*, a deed or grant.

*Fæder-feoh*, the portion brought by a wife to her husband, and which



reverted to a widow in case the heir of her deceased husband refused his consent to her second marriage.

*Falcatura*, one day's mowing of grass, a customary service to the lord by his inferior tenants.

*Falconarius*, a falconer.

*Falda*, a sheepfold. *Faldæ curfus*, a sheepwalk.

*Faldage*, a common of pasture for sheep.

*Faleſia*, a hill or down by the sea-side.

*Falſonarius*, a forger; also *falſarius*.

*Falſoneria*, forgery of coin and charters.

*Farinagium*, a toll on meal or flour.

*Farlen*, money paid by tenants in lieu of heriot.

*Faviſſor*, a favourer or maintainer.

*Felagus*, a fellow, comrade, or sworn brother.

*Fengeld*, a tax exacted for the repelling of enemies.

*Feodi-firma*, fee farm.

*Feodum*, a fief, an estate held by tenure from a superior lord.

*Feob*, cattle, money.

*Feonatio*, the fawning time.

*Feorm-fultum*, rent paid in kind from public lands.

*Ferdingus*, a freeman of the lowest class.

*Ferdwit*, quit of manslaughter committed in the army; also a fine imposed on persons for not going forth in a military expedition.

*Feria*, a fair.

*Ferling*, the fourth part of a penny.

*Ferlingus*, a furlong.

*Fermifona*, the winter season for killing deer.

*Ferro*, an ironmonger.

*Fief d'baubert*, knight service.

*Filare*, to file.

*Filiolus*, a godson.

*Finis*, a payment made to procure the end of a lawsuit or immunity from molestation.

*Fire-bote*, fuel for necessary use allowed to tenants out of the lands granted to them.

*Firma*, ferm or farm; fixed sum or rent payable by way of composition; the profits of the county jurisdictions let at fixed sums to the sheriffs.

*Firmarius*, one who farmed or compounded by an annual fixed payment for the revenues of his official position.

- Firmatio*, the doe season.  
*Fiscus*, the Exchequer; revenue.  
*Flaco*, a place covered with standing water.  
*Flem*, an outlaw.  
*Flemeswite*, the possession of the goods of fugitives.  
*Flet*, house, home.  
*Flocci*, refuse wool.  
*Flyma*, a runaway, fugitive.  
*Focage*, rank after-grass not eaten in summer; also fire-bote.  
*Folc-land*, the land of the folk or people—*terra popularis quæ jure communi possidetur—sine scripto*.  
*Folc-mote*, a general assembly of the people to consider matters concerning the commonwealth; also any kind of public meeting.  
*Folgare*, to follow.  
*Folgarii*, menial servants.  
*Folgere*, a freeman who is the retainer of another for whom he performs certain predial services.  
*Foragium*, straw when the corn is thrashed out.  
*Foraneus*, a foreigner.  
*Forbannitus*, pirate.  
*Forcelectum*, a fortress.  
*Forestel*, an assault.  
*Forgabulum*, a quit rent, a small reserved rent in money.  
*Forinsecus*, outlawed, foreign.  
*Forisfacere*, to offend, or injure.  
*Forisfactura*, forfeiture.  
*Forisjudicare*, to pronounce forfeited.  
*Fornagium*, the fee taken by a lord of his tenant, who was bound to bake in the lord's common oven, or for a permission to use his own.  
*Forfes*, waterfalls.  
*Forstallatio*, obstruction or hindrance.  
*Forsagium*, duty levied on the inhabitants for repairing the moat or ditch round a fortified town.  
*Fraetium*, arable land.  
*Francus*, a freeman, a freeholder.  
*Francus-plegius*, a frank pledge; a member of an association for mutual security.  
*Friscus*, fresh, uncultivated ground.

*Frith*, peace: *frith-gild*; members of an association for mutual protection; *frith-borga*, an association of ten men for mutual security; *frith-borgus*, a member of such an association; *frith-bot*, payment to atone for breach of peace.

*Frumstol*, original or paternal dwelling.

*Fugare*, to hunt; *fugatio*, a hunting ground.

*Fumage*, a tax paid to the sovereign for every house that had a chimney.

*Fundus*, the soil.

*Furca*, the gallows.

*Furniare*, to bake.

*Fustarius*, a joiner.

*Fyrd*, *fyrðung*, the land force of the whole country.

*Gabel*, an excise; a rent, custom or service.

*Gafol*, rent.

*Gaiola*, a prison, a gaol.

*Garba*, a sheaf of corn; a handful.

*Garcio*, a serving man.

*Gardia*, custody.

*Garneftura*, necessities for the defence of a town or castle.

*Gavelman*, a tenant liable to tribute.

*Geldare*, to pay tax.

*Geldum*, a tax of any sort.

*Gemot*, a meeting.

*Geneatland*, land cultivated by *geneats*, or persons holding by service.

*Gerfumarius*, liable to be fined.

*Gerfumna*, an exaction.

*Gefithcundman*, a man in the rank of *gefith* or *comes*: a companion of a king, a great lord, and so ennobled by service.

*Gewineda*, the ancient convention of the people to decide a cause.

*Gewitenemot*, witenagemot.

*Gieresgieve*, a bribe given to the king's officers for connivance.

*Gilda*, an association for mutual protection, mercantile objects or for religious worship.

*Gisarma*, a dart.

*Glebariæ*, turfs dug out of the ground.

*Goliardus*, a jester.

*Gradarius*, an ambling horse.

*Grangia*, a grange, a farm-house.

*Grantum*, security given.

*Gravare*, to aggrieve.

*Greve*, power, authority.

*Griseum*, grey.

*Grith*, peace, protection.

*Gultwit*, amends for a trespass.

*Gwerra*, or *guerra*, war.

*Gwerrina*, in a state of war.

*Habentia*, riches.

*Hagia*, *baia*, a hedge.

*Hallage*, toll paid for goods sold in a hall.

*Hallmote*, the local court of a franchise.

*Hamma*, a little meadow.

*Hamsoca*, a penalty for breach of the peace by forcible entry into a man's house.

*Hand-habend*, or *bond-habend*. See *Hontfongenethes*.

*Hangewitha*, a liberty to be quit of a felon or thief hanged without judgment or escaped out of custody.

*Hansa*, a trade guild.

*Haracia*, a stud of horses.

*Healfang*, or *halsfang*, the pillory; also a pecuniary mulct to commute for standing in the pillory.

*Heda*, a small haven or landing place.

*Hedagium*, toll for landing goods.

*Heimfara*, a breach of peace by forcibly entering a man's house.

*Henfare*, a fine for flight on account of murder.

*Hengew*, a prison.

*Heorthfæst*, or *budæfæst*, having a fixed hearth or dwelling.

*Herbagium*, herbage.

*Herbergare*, to harbour.

*Herciare*, to harrow; *bercia*, a harrow.

*Herebannum*, a fine for not going armed into the field when summoned.

*Herefare*, a going to war.

*Heretum*, a court or yard.

*Heriot*, originally a tribute to the lord of a manor of the horse or habiliments of the deceased tenants, in order that the *militiæ*



*apparatus* might continue to be used for the purpose of national defence by each succeeding tenant. On the decline of the military tenures, the heriot was commuted for a money payment, or for the tenant's best beast (*averium*) or dead chattel, which is most commonly compounded for.

*Hernefcus, beyrinus*, a heron.

*Hibernagium*, season for sowing winter corn.

*Hide of land*, such a space as might be ploughed with one plough, or as much as would maintain the family of a hide or mansion-house. According to some, it was sixty acres; others make it eighty; and others, again, a hundred. The quantity probably was always determined by local usage. In the reign of Henry II. it was fixed at one hundred acres.

*Hirst, burst*, a wood.

*Hlaford*, a lord. *Hlafordfocna*, a lord's protection.

*Hlotbe*, an unlawful assembly, from eight to thirty-five.

*Hokeday*, the second Tuesday after Easter. Hoke-Tuesday-money, a duty given to the landlord that his tenants and bondmen might solemnize the day on which the English conquered the Danes, being the second Tuesday after Easter week.

*Homagium, hominium*, the process of acknowledging oneself the vassal of a feudal superior.

*Homiplagium*, the maiming of a man.

*Honor*, a feignory of several manors held under one baron or lord paramount; also those dignities or privileges, degrees of nobility, knighthood, and other titles, which flow from the Crown, the fountain of honour.

*Hontfongenethesf, or bonfangenethesf*, a thief taken with the thing stolen in his hand.

*Hookland*, land ploughed and sown every year.

*Hope*, a valley.

*Horda*, a cow in calf.

*Horderium*, a treasury or repository.

*Horn-geld*, a forest tax paid for horned beasts.

*Hospitatus*, inhabited.

*Hofelagium*, a right to have lodging and entertainment reserved by lords in their tenants' houses.

*Hofterium*, a hoe.

*Hoftiarius*, a door-keeper, an usher.

*Hoftium*, a door.

*Hundredarius*, the bailiff of the hundred.

*Hundredum*, *Hundredus*, *Hundretum*, the local division called the hundred, the nature of which is not known with certainty. In the "Dialogus de Scaccario," it is said that a hundred "*ex hydarum aliquot centenariis, sed non determinatis constat; quidam enim ex pluribus, quidam ex paucioribus constat.*" Some accounts make it consist of precisely a hundred hides; others, of a hundred tithings, or of a hundred free families. (See Stubbs, p. 67.)

*Hundred-festa*, the performance of suit and service at the hundred court.

*Hundred-fetena*, dwellers or inhabitants of a hundred.

*Hundred-lagh*, or *Hundred-law*, a hundred-court.

*Hundred-penny*, the *hundredfe*, or tax collected by the sheriff or lord of a hundred.

*Hundredes earldor*, *Hundredes man* [*aldermannus hundredi*], the presiding officer in the hundred-court.

*Hufling*, the court of a borough held in a house; *bus*, a house; *thing*, an assembly.

*Hutefium et clamor*, hue and cry.

*Hyda*, a measure of land. See Hide.

*Hydagium*, a tax imposed at so much a hide.

*Hynden*, an association of ten men in a frith-gild.

*Imbreviare*, to register.

*Imbrochiare*, to tap a barrel.

*Impechiare*, to impeach.

*Impetrare*, to obtain by application.

*Implacitare*, to bring an action against.

*Improperare*, to reproach, to abuse.

*Impruiare*, to improve land.

*Incaustum*, or *Encaustum*, ink.

*Infangentbef*, a privilege of lords of certain manors to judge any thief taken within their fee.

*Infeodare*, to enfeoff.

*Implicare*, to expend.

*Instauramentum*, the stocking of a farm.

*Instaurare*, to stock a farm.

*Interciare*, to demand warranty of a person in whose hands stolen property is found.

*Intrinfecus*, a citizen.

*Invadiare*, to pledge or mortgage lands.

*Invenire*, to furnish.

*Irrotulare*, to enrol.

*Jactivus*, tossed away.

*Jampnum*, furze or ground where furze grows.

*Jeman*, a yeoman.

*Jocalia*, jewels, paraphernalia.

*Joncaria*, land where rushes grow.

*Jubar*, a sunbeam.

*Judicium*, *Juifa*, the ordeal.

*Jurata*, a jury.

*Jurnedum*, a day's travelling.

*Justitiare*, to bring to justice.

*Kaia*, a quay or wharf.

*Kaiagium*, a wharfage due.

*Kerhere*, a customary cart-way.

*Kernellatus*, fortified or embattled.

*Kidellus*, a dam or open weir in a river.

*Kyfta* or *Kyfte*, a chest or coffin.

*Labina*, watery land.

*Lacerta*, a fathom.

*Lacuna*, a ditch or dyke, a blank in a writing.

*Lædoriæ*, maledictions.

*Laga*, law.

*Lagan*, a right which the chief lord of the fee had to take goods cast on shore by the violence of the sea.

*Lagemannus*, a person possessing jurisdiction or qualified to exercise it.

*Lagena*, a gallon.

*Laia*, a roadway in a wood.

*Lair-wite*, a fine for adultery or fornication.

*Lanarius*, a woolmonger.

*Landa*, a field cleared from wood.

*Landefricus*, a landlord.

*Lanutus*, woolly.

*Lardarium*, a larder.

*Laſtum*, a laſt.

*Legalis homo*, a perſon who ſtands *rectus in curia*, neither outlawed, excommunicated, nor infamous.

*Legatum*, a legacy or deviſe.

*Leod*, the people, nation, country, &c.

*Leporarius*, a harrier ; *leporium*, a place where hares are kept.

*Leſtagium*, a duty laid on the cargo of a ſhip.

*Leſwes* or *Leſues*, paſtures.

*Leuca*, a meaſure of 1,500 paces ; later, a league.

*Leue*, a compulſory gift to the magiſtrate.

*Leugata*, territory ſurrounding a town at the radius of a *leuca*.

*Lex judicialis*, the ordeal.

*Liber lapis*, freeſtone.

*Libra penſa*, a pound of money by weight.

*Librata*, an eſtate in land worth a pound a year.

*Ligantia*, allegiance.

*Ligius*, liege ; *ligius dominus*, the lord to whom the oath of fealty was taken *contra omnes homines* without exception.

*Lignagium*, a right of cutting fuel in woods.

*Lintbeamen*, a towel.

*Lineatus*, lined.

*Liſta*, the ſelvage or liſting of cloth.

*Loquela*, a legal claim.

*Lorema*, a horſe's bit.

*Lorica*, a coat of mail as worn by a knight ; hence the knightly tenure.

*Lorinarius*, a maker of horſes' bits.

*Lot*, a contribution or duty.

*Luceus*, a pike or luce.

*Luti appoſitor*, a mud-layer.

*Maſtator*, a murderer.

*Mæg-burgh*, kindred, family.

*Mæg-bot*, compensation for homicide paid by the perpetrator to the family of the ſlain.

*Mære*, famous, great, noted ; *ælmere*, all famous.

*Major*, a perſon of full age ; the mayor of a community.

*Malandrinus*, a thief or pirate.



- Malatollia*, the unjust custom on wool, the evil tax.
- Managium*, a mansion-house or dwelling-place.
- Manbote*, a compensation or recompense for homicide, particularly due to the lord for killing his man or vassal, the amount of which was regulated by that of the *wer*.
- Manca*, *Mancus*, or *Mancusa*, a square piece of gold coin, commonly valued at thirty pence.
- Maneries*, manner, fort.
- Manerium*, a manor.
- Mango*, a monger or retailer.
- Mangonare*, to buy in a market.
- Mannopus*, goods taken in the hands of an apprehended thief.
- Manfa* or *Manfum*, a mansion or house.
- Manfer*, a bastard.
- Manucaptio*, surety.
- Manung*, or *Monung*, the district within the jurisdiction of a reeve, apparently so called from his power to exercise therein one of his chief functions, viz. to exact (*amanian*) all fines.
- Manu opera*, cattle or implements of husbandry; also stolen goods taken from a thief caught in the fact.
- Manuoperarius*, a handicraftsman.
- Manupastus*, a domestic.
- Manutenere*, to maintain.
- Manutergium*, a towel.
- Marca*, a mark; the mark of silver was 13s. 4d.; the mark of gold, six pounds sterling.
- Marettum*, marshy ground overflowed by the sea or great rivers.
- Mariscus*, a marshy ground.
- Maritagium*, the portion which is given with a daughter in marriage; also the power which the lord or guardian in chivalry had of disposing of his infant ward in matrimony.
- Maritare*, to marry.
- Marlera*, a marl-pit.
- Masagium*, a messuage.
- Masera*, a cup.
- Mastivus*, a mastiff.
- Masura*, the ruins of a building.
- Matertera*, an aunt by the mother.
- Mearc*, a border, margin, land-mark.

- Mederia*, a house where mead was made.  
*Med-sceat*, a bribe, hush-money.  
*Mediatus*, mesne.  
*Megarus*, a mackerel.  
*Merannum*, timbers ; wood for building.  
*Mercata*, the quantity of land worth a mark (13s. 4d.) a year.  
*Merchet*, the sum paid by a villein to his lord for leave to give his daughter in marriage.  
*Mercia*, an amercement.  
*Messina*, harvest.  
*Mestera*, a trade or mystery.  
*Methel*, speech. *Mathlian*, to speak.  
*Millarium*, a sum of a thousand.  
*Minator*, a miner. *Minator caruæ*, a ploughman.  
*Misa*, provisional articles, terms proposed.  
*Misericordia*, mercy, a mulct at discretion.  
*Miskenning*, a wrongful citation.  
*Misa*, outlay, expenditure ; generally written *misa*.  
*Misaticus*, a messenger.  
*Modiatio*, a certain duty paid for every tierce of wine.  
*Molendinum*, a mill.  
*Monetarium* or *Moneyage*, called also *focagium*, a certain tribute formerly paid by tenants to their lord every third year, that he should not change the money which he had coined, when it was lawful for certain great men to coin money, but not of silver and gold, in their territories. Abrogated by Henry I.  
*Monetarius*, a person empowered to coin.  
*Mora*, a moor.  
*Morosus*, marshy.  
*Morus*, a haddock.  
*Mulecius*, a mullet.  
*Mulneda*, a place to build a water-mill.  
*Multo*, a wether sheep.  
*Mulvellus*, a melwel or green fish.  
*Muratus*, walled. *Muragium*, money paid to keep walls in repair.  
*Murdrum*, the secret killing of another ; also the amercement to which the vill wherein it was committed, or, if that were too poor, the whole hundred was liable.  
*Mussa*, a moss or marsh ground.

*Namiare*, to diftrain.

*Namium*, a diftreſs or feizure.

*Nafellus*, a ſmall veſſel.

*Nativus*, a fervant born.

*Neggildare*, to claim kindred.

*Neife*, a woman born in villenage.

*Niderling*, *Nidering*, or *Nitbing*, a vile, baſe perſon.

*Nocumentum*, a nuisance.

*Nonagium*, a ninth part of movables paid to the clergy on the death of perſons in their pariſh, and claimed on pretence of being diſtributed to pious purpoſes.

*Nonſecta*, nonſuit.

*Nothus*, a baſtard.

*Novale*, land newly ploughed and converted into tillage.

*Nummata terræ*, an acre of land.

*Nundinæ*, a fair. *Nundinarius*, having a fair.

*Nurus*, a daughter-in-law.

*Obedientiarius*, a monaſtic officer.

*Oblata terræ*, half an acre, or, as ſome ſay, half a perch of land.

*Obolus*, one halfpenny.

*Occaſio*, a tribute which the lord impoſed on his vaſſals for his neceſſity; hindrance, moleſtation.

*Occaſionare*, to moleſt, to ſpoil.

*On-blote*, the ſhare of taxation apportioned to the individual member of a community.

*Opponere*, to ſubſcribe.

*Ora*, a coin, valued at 16 pence, and ſometimes at 20 pence.

*Orfgild*, a delivery or reſtitution of cattle. Lambarde ſays it is a reſtitution made by the hundred or county for any wrong done by one who was in pledge, or rather, a penalty for taking away cattle.

*Orgild*, without recompenſe; as where no ſatisfaction was to be made for the death of a man killed, ſo that he was judged lawfully ſlain.

*Ortelli*, the claws of a dog's foot.

*Orwige*, *ſine wita*, without war or feud, ſuch ſecurity being provided by the laws for homicides, under certain circumſtances, againſt the *ſabth*, or deadly feud, on the part of the family of the ſlain.

*Ostenſio*, a tax paid by merchants for leave to expoſe their goods for ſale in markets.

*Oſtentatus*, a muſter or parade.

*Outfangtheſ*, a liberty or privilege, in the ancient common law, whereby a lord was enabled to call any man dwelling in his manor, and taken for felony in another place out of his fee, to judgment in his own court.

*Overberniſſa*, *Oferbyrnes*, diſobedience ; contempt of court.

*Overſameſſa*, a forfeiture for neglect in not purſuing a malefactor.

*Oxfild*, a reſtitution made by a hundred or county for any wrong done by one that was within the ſame.

*Oxgate* or *Oxgang*, fifteen acres of land.

*Paagium*, a toll for paſſage through another's land.

*Pacare*, to pay. *Pacatio*, payment.

*Paiare*, to pay.

*Paifſo*, a liberty for hogs to run in woods to feed upon maſt.

*Palacium*, a palifade.

*Palagium*, a duty to lords of manors for exporting or importing veſſels of wine at any of their ports.

*Pancratiatus*, puniſhed, tormented.

*Panduator*, a brewer.

*Panerius*, a bread baſket.

*Panetria*, a pantry.

*Pannagium*, the licence granted to feed ſwine in the lord's woods, alſo the money paid for ſuch licence.

*Pannus radiatus*, ſtriped cloth.

*Paracium*, the tenure between parceners, viz., that which the youngeſt owes to the eldeſt without homage or ſervice.

*Parochianus*, a pariſhioner.

*Paſſagium*, a voyage ; a tax upon paſſengers.

*Paſſagium regis*, a voyage to the Holy Land made by the kings of England in perſon.

*Paſtitium*, paſture land.

*Patena*, a paten.

*Patrinus*, a godfather.

*Patruelis*, a couſin german by the father's ſide ; the ſon or daughter of a father's brother.

*Patruus*, an uncle by the father's ſide, a father's brother.



*Patruus magnus*, a grandfather's brother, grand-uncle.

*Patruus major*, a great-grandfather's brother.

*Patruus maximus*, a great-grandfather's father's brother.

*Paviare*, to pave.

*Pecia*, a piece.

*Pecunia*, properly money, but anciently cattle, and sometimes other goods as well as money.

*Pedagium*, a toll for having a way through the royal forest, to the alarm of the venison there.

*Pedones*, foot soldiers.

*Pelliparius*, a skinner.

*Pellota*, the ball of a foot.

*Percussura*, coining.

*Perire*, to fail in the ordeal.

*Perquirere*, to acquire, purchase, seek, or contrive.

*Persona*, a beneficed clergyman.

*Pertica*, a perch, a measure of land.

*Pesagium*, a duty paid for weighing commodities.

*Pheliparius*, a dealer in old clothes and furniture.

*Pilatus*, a bolt for shooting.

*Pilleus*, a cap.

*Piperarii*, dealers in spices; grocers.

*Placitare*, to plead.

*Placius*, a plaice.

*Plebania*, a mother church.

*Plebanus*, a rural dean.

*Plegium*, or *Plevina*, a surety.

*Plumerus*, a plover.

*Pomilio*, a fruiterer.

*Poletarius*, a poulterer.

*Pontagium*, a bridge-toll.

*Portatus*, behaviour, carriage.

*Portreeve*, the chief magistrate of a port or mercantile town.

*Portfoka*, the jurisdiction of a portreeve.

*Potellus*, a pottle, two quarts.

*Poudratus*, powdered with salt.

*Præconarius*, belonging to a crier.

*Prædicatio*, a sermon.

*Præmunire*, to forewarn.

*Præpositus*, an officer next in authority to the alderman of a hundred, called *præpositus regius*; or a steward or bailiff of an estate.

*Prebenda* or *Probanda*, provisions, provender.

*Prindere*, to take.

*Prisa*, an exaction.

*Priso*, a prisoner taken in war; a prison.

*Proamita*, a great paternal aunt, the sister of one's grandfather.

*Proamita magna*, a great great aunt.

*Proavia*, a great grandmother.

*Proavunculus*, a great great uncle.

*Proavus*, a great grandfather.

*Probator*, an examiner, king's evidence.

*Prolongare*, to remove, to dispossess by delaying seisin.

*Proluxus*, lengthened, tedious.

*Promatertera*, a great maternal aunt; the sister of one's grandmother.

*Pronepos*, a great grandson.

*Pronurus*, the wife of a great grandson.

*Propiare*, to approach.

*Protojustitiarius*, the Chief Justice.

*Pulcinus*, a chicken.

*Purprestura*, an encroachment.

*Quarentena terræ*, a furlong.

*Quassare*, to quash.

*Quietancia*, *Quietatio*, an acquaintance.

*Quietare*, to acquit, discharge, or save harmless.

*Quietum-clamare*, to quit claim, or renounce all pretensions of right and title.

*Quindena* or *Quinzaine*, a day over a fortnight.

*Rachetum*, a compensation or redemption of a thief.

*Raglorius*, a steward.

*Ran*, open or public theft.

*Recantum*, a counter-tally.

*Recepta*, receipt.

*Receptus*, an arbitrator.

*Recidivare*, to relapse.

*Recognitio*, an inquest by oath of twelve men under the system of affize ; a declaratory statement of the law.

*Reclare*, to accuse.

*Redditarius*, a renter.

*Redimere*, to redeem.

*Refare*, to take away, rob.

*Regratarius*, a retailer who buys goods in order to sell them again at a higher price.

*Reguardor*, a person acting as visitor in a reguard.

*Reguardum forestæ*, a visitation of the forests.

*Regularis*, living in obedience to monastic rule.

*Rehabere*, to recover possession.

*Reif*, robbery.

*Relevare*, to relieve, to take up an inheritance by payment of relief.

*Relevium*, the relief, the money paid by the incoming heir for admission to his inheritance.

*Remandare*, to send back.

*Rememorare*, to regard, or to place in the *agenda* of Parliament.

*Replegiare*, to redeem a thing detained by another by giving sureties.

*Referare*, to interpret, reveal.

*Respectus*, respite.

*Retonfor*, a clipper of coin.

*Rettare*, to accuse. *Rettum*, an accusation.

*Revelach*, theft.

*Rifflare*, to take away anything by force.

*Riparia*, a river, or water running between banks.

*Riveare*, to have the liberty of a river for fishing and fowling.

*Roberia*, robbery.

*Rochus*, a roach.

*Rogus*, a funeral pile.

*Rombus*, a sturgeon.

*Ros*, a kind of rushes.

*Rumpbea*, a javelin or dart.

*Runcaria*, land full of brambles and briars.

*Runcinus*, a horse.

*Ruptarii* or *Ruttarii*, soldiers, or rather robbers.

*Ruptura*, arable land, or ground broken up.

- Sabbulonarium*, a gravel pit ; liberty to dig gravel or sand ; money paid for the same.
- Saca, Sacha*, jurisdiction in matters of dispute.
- Sacaburth, Sacabere, Sakabere*, he that is robbed, or by theft deprived of his money or goods, and puts in surety to prosecute the felon with fresh suit.
- Sæmend*, an umpire, arbitrator.
- Sagibaro, Sachbaro*, a judge.
- Sagmen*, fat or lard.
- Saio*, a tipstaff or serjeant-at-arms.
- Saisiare, Saisire*, to seize, to take possession of.
- Saisina*, possession.
- Salfarium*, a saltcellar.
- Saltus*, a high thick wood or forest.
- Salvagus*, wild.
- Sarcultura una*, a tenant's service of one year's weeding for his lord.
- Sarkellus*, an unlawful net for destroying fish.
- Saver de fault*, to excuse.
- Scaccarium*, the Exchequer.
- Scacci*, the game of chess.
- Scalam*, scale ; the old way of paying money into the Exchequer.
- Scannum*, a bench.
- Scavage, Schevage, Schewage*, or *Skewage*, a kind of toll or custom exacted by mayors, sheriffs, &c., of merchant strangers, for wares showed or offered for sale within their liberties.
- Scavaidus*, the officer who collected the scavage money.
- Sceithman*, a pirate or thief.
- Schaffa*, a sheaf.
- Schar-penny, Scharn-penny*, or *Schorn-penny*, a small duty or compensation.
- Schetes*, usury.
- Schilla*, a little bell used in monasteries.
- Schira, Scira*, a shire.
- Schirereva*, a sheriff ; the king's representative in the shire as the *præpositus* or *gerefa* was in the township.
- Schot*, a tax generally.
- Scir-gemot, Scyres-gemot*, meeting of the shire ; county court.
- Scirman*, the headman of the shire.
- Scothala, Scottesbale*, an extortionate practice by officers of the forest



who kept ale-houses, and compelled the people to drink at their houses for fear of their displeasure.

*Scrinium*, a shrine.

*Secia*, suit, attendance in court ; pursuit of the hue and cry.

*Seclator*, a suitor.

*Seedlip*, a measure of wheat.

*Seisina*, possession of land.

*Seisire*, to seize.

*Selda*, a shop or stall in the market, a wood of willows, a saw pit.

*Sellarius*, a saddler.

*Semolim*, separately.

*Senescallus*, a steward ; also one who has the dispensing of justice.

*Seneucia*, widowhood.

*Septimana*, a week.

*Septum*, an enclosure.

*Sepultura*, burial fees.

*Sergantia*, *Sergantisa*, *Sergenteria*, sergeantry ; a service anciently due to the Crown for lands held of it, and which could not be due to any other lord. It was divided into *grand* and *petit*.

*Sermocinari*, to preach.

*Serviens*, a sergent.

*Sextarius*, a measure of four gallons.

*Sica*, a ditch.

*Sigla*, a sail.

*Silva cædua*, wood under twenty years' growth.

*Singularis*, a wild boar.

*Sithcundman*, the high constable of a hundred.

*Sithesocna*, the jurisdiction of a *gestib*, any private franchise.

*Slippa*, a stirrup.

*Soca*, *Socca*, *Socna*, *Soka*, *Soken*, a liberty, privilege, or franchise, granted by the king to a subject ; also the area within which that franchise is exercised.

*Socagium*, *Sokagium*, a tenure by any certain or determinate services.

*Sochemannus*, a ceorl, a free landowner not noble.

*Socome*, a custom of grinding corn at the lord's mill.

*Solanda*, a certain quantity of ploughed land.

*Solidarius*, a paid soldier.

*Solidata*, the quantity of land worth a shilling a year.

*Solidus*, a shilling-weight of silver.

*Sollagium*, an impost claimed by the lord of the soil by way of ground rent.

*Sothfaga*, history, true testimony.

*Sotilaris*, a shoe.

*Spadarius*, a sword-bearer.

*Spernarius*, a sparrow-hawk.

*Sportula*, a dole either of meat or money given by great men to the poor.

*Stabilitio venationis*, the driving deer to a stand.

*Stadium*, a furlong.

*Stagirus*, a resident.

*Stallagium*, payment for having a stall in the market.

*Staurare*, to stock a farm.

*Sterbreche*, the obstructing of a way.

*Stiremannus*, a pilot or steersman.

*Strata*, street. *Strator*, surveyor of the highways, also a stirrup-holder.

*Suanimotum*, the court of the freemen in the forest.

*Submonire*, to summon.

*Subnervare*, to hamstring.

*Suburbani*, husbandmen.

*Sufferentia*, a truce.

*Sullery*, a plough land.

*Sumagium*, a burden.

*Summagium*, a team of beasts of burden.

*Summarius*, a sumpter horse; a beast of burden.

*Summonitio*, a summons.

*Tabularius*, a notary.

*Tachiamentum*, an arrest.

*Tallagium*, *Tailagium*, a tax; specially a talliage, an aid demandable of demesne lands at the will of the lord.

*Tallia*, *Talea*, or *Taleola*, a tally, a stick cut into two parts, on each whereof is marked, with notches or otherwise, what is due between debtor and creditor. It was the ancient mode of keeping accounts; one part was held by the creditor and the other by the debtor. The use of tallies in the Exchequer was abolished by 23 George III. c. 82, and the old tallies were ordered to be destroyed by 4 & 5 William IV. c. 15.

*Tallia*, commons in meat and drink.

*Tannator*, a tanner.

*Taxare*, to fix.

*Team*, *Theam*, *Them*, *Theim*, the right of compelling the person in whose hands stolen or lost property was found to vouch to warranty, that is, to name the person from whom he received it.

*Tegula*, a tile or brick. *Tegularius*, a bricklayer.

*Telarius*, a weaver.

*Teneded*, or *Tienbeofed*, a dean.

*Tenementum*, a holding an estate held feudally.

*Tenmannetale*, the number of ten men, called a decennary; ten decennaries made what we call a hundred. Also, a duty or tribute paid to the Crown, consisting of two shillings for each ploughland.

*Tenferia*, a tax.

*Tenura*, the mode of holding an estate feudally; the holding itself.

*Terra*, arable land.

*Terra affirmata*, land let to farm.

*Terra boscalis*, woody land.

*Terra culta*, cultivated land.

*Terra debilis*, weak or barren land.

*Terra dominica*, or *Indominicata*, the demesne land of a manor.

*Terra excultabilis*, land which may be ploughed.

*Terra frusca*, or *frisca*, fresh land, not lately ploughed.

*Terra hydala*, land subject to the payment of hydage.

*Terra lucrabilis*, land gained from the sea or enclosed out of a waste.

*Terra nova*, land newly converted from wood ground to arable.

*Terra putura*, land in forests held by the tenure of furnishing food to the keepers therein.

*Terra sabulosa*, gravelly or sandy ground.

*Terra testamentalis*, gavelkind land.

*Terra vestita*, land sown with corn.

*Terra wainabilis*, tillable land.

*Terrarius*, a landholder.

*Testimonium*, character, attestation.

*Thegn*, *Thaynus*, a thane; originally a servant; then a person who became noble by service of a superior; the thane before the Conquest occupied nearly the same position socially as the knight did after it.

*Thelonium*, *Theoloneum*, *Tol*, *Thol*, toll.

*Theoden*, an under-thane.

*Theof*, offenders who joined in a body of seven to commit robbery ;  
*theof-gyld*, money paid in compensation for robbery.

*Thing*, an assembly.

*Timbre*, a bundle of skins.

*Titbing*, *Tetbinga*, the number or company of ten men, with their families, knit together in a society, all of them being bound to the king for their peaceable and good behaviour, the chief of whom was the tithing-man (toothing-man).

*Tolnetum*, a toll.

*Tolta*, a tax.

*Tonellus*, a tun of liquor.

*Torra*, a mount or hill.

*Tremellum*, a granary.

*Trestornare*, to turn another way.

*Tretbingius*, the third part of a shire or province ; a riding.

*Tritavia*, a great grandmother's great grandmother ; the female ascendant in the 6th degree.

*Tritavus*, a great grandfather's great grandfather ; the male ascendant in the 6th degree.

*Treuga*, a truce.

*Trona*, a balance or beam.

*Tronage*, a toll for weighing wool. *Tronator*, a weigher of wool.

*Tungrevius*, the bailiff of a township.

*Turbo*, a turbot.

*Turnus*, the periodical court of the sheriff.

*Twelfbindi*, the highest rank of Englishmen, and who were valued at 1,200s. If any injury were done to such persons, satisfaction was to be made according to their worth.

*Twybindi*, the lower order of Englishmen, valued at 200s. in the scale of pecuniary mulcts inflicted for crimes.

*Tyhsan*, an accusation.

*Tyhtbyfig*, of bad reputation.

*Tylwith*, a tribe, house, or family.

*Ulna ferrea*, the standard ell of iron kept in the Exchequer for the rule of measure.

*Uncuth*, unknown.

*Unfrid*, one who has neither peace nor quiet.



*Ungeld*, an outlaw.

*Unlage*, an unjust law.

*Ustilamentum*, a loom.

*Utlagare*, to outlaw.

*Utlaghe*, an outlaw.

*Vadiare*, to give security for.

*Vadium*, a pledge or surety.

*Vadlet*, the king's eldest son.

*Vaivus*, a waif, a vagabond.

*Valentia*, the value of anything.

*Varium*, a kind of fur.

*Vastum*, waste.

*Vavaßor*, an inferior baron ; one who himself holding of a superior lord, has others holding under him.

*Venatio*, privilege of hunting venison ; venison.

*Venella*, a lane.

*Verdictum*, verdict.

*Vespilio*, a thief.

*Viccomes*, a sheriff, literally a " vice-count " or " vice-earl."

*Viella*, a fiddle.

*Vigena*, a score.

*Villanus*, a villein ; one who held by a base service.

*Villata*, a township.

*Virga*, a rod or ensign of office.

*Viridarius*, a verderer.

*Viridis*, the privilege of using the wood in the forest.

*Visnetum*, a neighbourhood.

*Vitelarius*, a victualler.

*Vivarium*, a fish pond ; a place where living creatures are kept.

*Volatilia*, game.

*Wapentachium*, a subdivision of the riding.

*Warantizare*, to authorize, to guarantee.

*Warda*, pupilage ; wardship ; the custody of a tower or castle which the inhabitants were bound to keep at their own charge.

*Wardemota*, meeting of the ward in a corporate town.

*Wareenna*, a warren.

*Warnistura*, garnishing.

*Waynagium*, implements of husbandry.

*Wed*, a covenant or agreement.

*Wer*, a pecuniary compensation for an injury.

*Werelada*, a purging from a crime by the oaths of several persons, according to the degree and quality of the accused.

*Wergild*, *Weregild*, *Weregildum* [fr. *wer*, man, and *geld*, satisfaction], the price of homicide or other enormous offences, paid partly to the Crown for the loss of a subject, partly to the lord whose vassal he was, and partly to the party injured or the next of kin of the party slain. This is the earliest award of damages in our law.

*Werra*, war.

*Wesda*, woad.

*Witan*, wife men.

*Wite*, a punishment, pain, penalty, mulct, or criminal fine. The

*Wite* was a penalty paid to the Crown by a murderer. The *wer* was the fine a murderer had to pay to the family or relatives of the deceased, and the *wite* was the fine paid to the magistrate who presided over the district where the murder was perpetrated. Thus the *wite* was the satisfaction to be rendered to the community for the public wrong which had been committed, as the *wer* was to the family for their private injury.

*Witena-gemot*, or *Witena-gemote* [fr. *witta*, Sax. a wife man, and *gemot*, a synod or council, a convention or general assembly of wife men, to advise and assist the sovereign.

*Wong*, a field.

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